

## Unions open way to settlement at Heathrow

A peace move was made by the British Airways unions last night in the dispute that has crippled Heathrow flights. The unions said they were prepared to abandon their agreement allowing management men to undertake routine maintenance jobs to "secure a return to work as quickly as possible". British Airways said it hoped for a "positive response" by leaders of the unofficial action and promised to react constructively.

## British Airways faces run-down in services

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter  
Shop stewards representing 4,000 British Airways maintenance workers yesterday succeeded in extending support for the unofficial action that has crippled domestic and European flights from Heathrow for 10 days.

But later determined efforts by most of the 14 unions recognized by the airline to end the action seemed to be bearing fruit. There will be no domestic flights from Heathrow today and about half the hundred scheduled European flights are expected to be cancelled.

Some AUEW members in Belfast yesterday refused to handle British Airways flights destined for provincial airports that are showing support for the action and the London-Belfast "dual" service was cancelled. The flight to Manchester was stopped yesterday's meeting of stewards.

Nearly all British Airways depot workers at Heathrow belonging to the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers called for a call for support by the leaders of the unofficial action and stopped yesterday.

Other unions and management have joined forces to do the men's work. As a result management men are carrying out routine aircraft maintenance which will be done after 72 hours' flight. Officially, the AUEW disavows itself from the arrangement, but there is no doubt that, coming so soon after the Leyland toolmakers' defiance of the union's executive, it finds the British Airways dispute acutely embarrassing.

The shop stewards, who are demanding better shift pay and bargaining rights outside a formal negotiating structure, met at a mass meeting at Heathrow yesterday by 175 to 70 to ask AUEW members to shift to give them full support.

If they get it the airline will see a progressive run-down in services as aircraft development or become due for service.

Foreign airlines using Heathrow have not been affected because they have made arrangements for servicing at airports abroad, often making

## France rules out use of troops in Zaïre

Paris, April 12.—France has no intention of sending forces to Africa to take part in a "Vietnam-style war". President Giscard d'Estaing assured the French people on television tonight. He added that French aircraft being used to ferry military supplies from Morocco to Zaïre would be recalled to France at the end of this week.

Defending a decision that has met a mixed reaction at home, the President said he had not acted at the request or on the orders of the United States.

"We acted on our own account to assist African friends. Africa is a neighbouring continent. Subversion in Africa would have consequences for both France and Europe."

He said the military situation in Zaïre appeared to have stabilized as a result of the dispatch of 1,500 Moroccan troops to the Shaba (formerly Katanga) war zone and the arms supply operation by the French aircraft.

French troops in the threatened copper-mining centre of Kolwezi were only instructors training local troops and helping to maintain French-supplied equipment, he said.

Emphasizing the independence of France's decision, the President said he had not mentioned the possibility to Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, when he visited Paris 10 days ago.

Field reports showed that the invaders were not, as had been said, Katangan secessionist gendarmes, they were recently trained, he said, adding: "In other words, they are not Katangan gendarmes returning to their country after 12 years with their old weapons."



Zaïre troops unloading military equipment at a Kolwezi airstrip only 30 miles from the front.

They are elements who have undergone war training. They operate by night in small groups of 10 or 20, using night techniques."

There were situations, the President said, in which Europe had to manifest itself, "and Europe manifested itself through the intermediary of France."

Communist and Socialist members of the French Assembly today called for a vote on the President's action and charged that he had violated the constitution.

Washington: The United States today announced that it had agreed to provide Zaïre with military aid worth \$13m (about \$8m) but said the supplies would exclude weapons and ammunition.

A State Department spokesman said that President Mobutu of Zaïre, fighting insurgents who crossed from Angola into Shaba, had asked for combat supplies. But these would not be sent.

"We see a need for an end to the fighting, not an expansion of the fighting," the spokesman explained.

The supplies being sent comprise one C-130 Hercules transport aircraft and spare parts, radio equipment, petrol, signal panels, and spare parts for trucks and Jeeps. The State Department spokesman said: "We are attempting to provide assistance which will help Zaïre to stabilize the situation and protect its borders and the integrity of the nation."

Moscow: The Soviet Union today accused the West and China of trying to interfere in the internal affairs of Zaïre, at the same time issuing a strong denial that it was involved in the fighting there.

A statement carried by Tass said the fighting was a "strictly internal conflict which need not concern anyone outside that country."

But "a number of Western countries, as well as China, are urgently sending arms and military supplies to the central government of Zaïre," Tass said.

It added that a "slandereous campaign" had been launched alleging an invasion of Zaïre by Soviet-backed Angolan and Cuban troops and "the Soviet Union resolutely rejects as absurd any allegations of its

complicity in the events in Zaïre."

London: The French airlift is a prelude to interference by other members of the European Community with "criminal intentions" against Angola, a senior Angolan official claimed.

Rabat: Egypt has agreed to supply military air support to the operation in Zaïre, reliable sources said here today. Approval was given at the end of a fact-finding mission by military experts who have been visiting Zaïre, the sources said.

It was not yet known here what form the Egyptian aid would take or whether Egypt would agree to send fighter aircraft. —Reuters, Agence France-Presse and AP.

## Phase three talks start today as some unions set sights on 12-16%

By Tim Jones  
Labour Reporter

Ministers will meet the TUC economic committee today to begin discussions on a further phase of wage restraint amid gathering discontent among rank-and-file trade unionists.

Today's discussions are unlikely to include any specific figure for phase three. Talks will continue far into the afternoon session and it will be many weeks before the final details are reached.

A pattern of union hostility has emerged as a constant in the agendas for many of the conferences and will be used by union leaders to impress on Mr. Healey, the Chancellor, that they cannot accede to a further round unless a "credible" package emerges.

Some union leaders believe that a package, which would include limits on increases between 12 and 16 per cent may be required to give them any hope of carrying their members with them.

When he presented his union's quarterly economic review yesterday, Mr. Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said that a phase three policy would put more people out of work.

"We have a wrong economic strategy, given political sex appeal by the argument that there will be a wages jungle if there is not another year of income policy," he said. "I would rather be in the jungle than undernourished in a zoo."

His disillusionment with voluntary pay restraint is mirrored in motions contained in the preliminary agenda for most of the phases of the National Union of Railwaysmen.

Not one motion backs the continuation of the social contract where it affects pay. The motions vary only in the strength of their condemnation of the effects on working people of phases and two.

Some call for a gradual return to free collective bargaining and others call for its immediate application.

In its economic review the ASTMS notes that unemployment has risen historically high and predicts that it will rise to more than 15 million adults by the end of the year. The union forecasts that inflation will rise from 1979 onwards by North Sea oil. Mr. Jenkins says its effects would be planned for now.

The economy could and should be reformed and the scale of investment improved. All the arguments point to no phase three.

If the Government "copes with the purchasing power question" and restores the money it has taken from the public sector.

Mr. Jenkins says that in the short term there is still no alternative to import controls on manufactured and semi-manufactured products to allow reinvestment and restructuring of industry. Behind that intention there would have to be a controlled expansion of the economy affecting the private consumer and the public sector of industry alike.

"The major component of inflation is not earnings, and thus further income policy will only reduce demand and thus consumption even further, in turn increasing unemployment whilst leaving inflation substantially unchanged."

He believes the Government target for reducing unemployment from 700,000 by 1979 is clearly unobtainable.

Referring to the "great relief" which will be brought to Britain's balance of payments from 1979 onwards by North Sea oil, Mr. Jenkins says its effects would be planned for now.

The economy could and should be reformed and the scale of investment improved. All the arguments point to no phase three.

## Leyland under fire from Nader group

From Frank Vord  
US Economics Correspondent  
Washington, April 12

A leading American consumer group sponsored by Mr. Ralph Nader has called on the government's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to start a full investigation into 27 alleged important defects in four models manufactured by Leyland.

The group, Centre for Auto Safety, concludes in a report on British Leyland to the government agency that "in addition to its callous disregard of owner complaints and warranty claims (it) has consistently exported to the United States passenger vehicles which present an unreasonable risk of accidents occurring as a result of design, construction, or performance."

The potential for death and injuries caused by these cars was considerable. The group notes that only 578,029 Jaguars, MGs, Austins and Triumphs, were using United States roads at the start of last year and while this was a relatively small number "the potential for death and injuries caused by these cars is considerable."

The 20-page report largely consists of a catalogue of alleged defects with brief comments on the dangers involved. The report could result in an investigation which could have serious consequences for the British manufacturer.

More importantly, however, is the prospect that the charges today will win wide publicity and damage British Leyland sales in this important market.

Many of the complaints against British Leyland's products are too briefly outlined and British Leyland does not appear to have been given a fair chance to respond in detail.

Mr. Thomas Wilke, the consumer group's lawyer said the report and investigation was based on consumer complaints, its own research and "inside information from a British Leyland employee in the United States."

The consumer group claims, for example, that in Jaguar cars alone it found defective fuel tank change-over switches, defective fuel pumps, ignition amplifier stalling, power steering failure, disc brake defects, remote control door lock failures, windscreen washer motor defects and dashboard dial failures.

Other specific defects are itemized with regard to MG and Triumph sports cars and the Austin Marina.

Continued on page 15, col 5

## BBC radio breaks a new sound barrier

By Kenneth Gosling

Quadrasonic broadcasts—radio in the round—are to be transmitted for an experimental period of 12 months by the BBC, beginning at the end of this month.

Matrix H, developed by the BBC engineering research department, will be the system of transmission and the corporation says that 60 or 70 broadcasts spread over the year will be the first of their kind in the world.

The press and radio equipment manufacturers yesterday attended a demonstration of the new system, which has cost between £10,000 and £15,000, including the experimental year. That figure, according to Mr Douglas Muggersidge, Director of Programmes, BBC Radio, is equal to the cost of 15 minutes of television drama.

While Matrix H was being hailed as a great leap forward in radio, it was also admitted to be something of a leap in the dark. "We are aware," Mr Muggersidge said, "that very few people will be able to take advantage of the quad transmissions at the outset of the experiment."

But he hoped that by next March enough people will have been able to listen to provide a worthwhile reaction. It was also hoped to get two extra loudspeakers and high-fidelity enthusiasts and that cheap decoders—the essential "black box" adapter—would soon be on the market. They now cost £30, but owners of stereo equipment will have to wait for the total additional cost about £150.

Listeners to mono or stereo will not suffer in any way, the BBC says.

David Wade writes: The greatest innovation in modern radio was undoubtedly the introduction of VHF, which for the first time enabled listeners to hear clearly what they were being given. Yet it made little impact. Stereo, by comparison a marginal improvement, is now the sound nobody can do without and it is difficult not to conclude that the reasons have been mainly commercial.

Stereo involved not only radio but the gramophone: therefore the manufacturers got behind it. The same argument probably applies to quadrasonic. The question, however, is whether it will inspire programmes as remarkable as radio once delivered without benefit of any recent gadgetry; if it does, it will succeed where stereo and even VHF have failed.

**Ethiopian leader accuses Sudan of 'aggression'**

Addis Ababa, April 12.—Lieut. Colonel Mengistu Hailemariam, Ethiopian head of state, tonight accused President Nimeiry of Sudan of aggression against his country.

In a broadcast speech he said Ethiopia was being invaded by a foreign force, armed by Sudan and supported by Sudanese artillery and tanks.

Sudan radio said Ethiopia was trying to conceal continuing defeats inflicted by Eritrean secessionists.—Reuters.

## Spain eases restrictions

By Craig Seton

Supporters of Chelsea Football Club travelling to away matches are likely to face similar controls to those imposed on Manchester United supporters, Mr. Howell, Minister of State for Sport and Recreation said yesterday.

He was speaking after more than a hundred Chelsea supporters had caused serious disturbances after their team lost 4-0 to Charlton Athletic on Monday. A fire was started in the stand, a social club and turnstiles were damaged, and windows outside were smashed.

Mr. Howell indicated that his task in curbing football violence was not being made easy by the courts. He criticized fines totalling £160 imposed yesterday by Greenwich magistrates on five Chelsea supporters on charges arising from Monday's violence. The accused were also ordered to pay a total of £55 in compensation. Three others were remanded on bail.

The cases involved damage to a car window, two panes of glass in a house near the ground, and gutting at a building at Charlton Athletic's ground.

## Strict controls likely after Chelsea supporters fined

By Craig Seton

Supporters of Chelsea Football Club travelling to away matches are likely to face similar controls to those imposed on Manchester United supporters, Mr. Howell, Minister of State for Sport and Recreation said yesterday.

He was speaking after more than a hundred Chelsea supporters had caused serious disturbances after their team lost 4-0 to Charlton Athletic on Monday. A fire was started in the stand, a social club and turnstiles were damaged, and windows outside were smashed.

Mr. Howell indicated that his task in curbing football violence was not being made easy by the courts. He criticized fines totalling £160 imposed yesterday by Greenwich magistrates on five Chelsea supporters on charges arising from Monday's violence. The accused were also ordered to pay a total of £55 in compensation. Three others were remanded on bail.

The cases involved damage to a car window, two panes of glass in a house near the ground, and gutting at a building at Charlton Athletic's ground.

Mr. Howell said that the fines, the highest of which was £40, did not appear to bear any relation to the intention of the Government, which was proposing to increase fines for football hooliganism to a maximum of £1,000. "The use of detention and attendance centres seems to have more merit than inadequate fines," he said.

He has asked the police and Charlton Athletic to give him full reports of Monday's disturbances, but said: "This sort of behaviour has got to be stopped. If it means fans will be denied access to the terraces then that is what we shall do. It is not the first time."

Chelsea supporters have been involved in something like this.

In the Commons last week Mr. Howell announced a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. The Football League and the Football Association, he said, would ensure that all Manchester United away matches would be ticketed only occasions. In no circumstances would tickets be available on the day of the match.

Chairman's reply: Mr. Roger Fyson, aged 63, chairman of the magistrates who fined the five Chelsea supporters, said last night: "I think our penalties were just. It may be all right for Mr. Howell to talk in terms of £1,000 fines. He should try collecting them."

"When dealing with soccer hooligans magistrates take into account their means. Often we are dealing with unemployed people who are going to football matches and paying the entrance fee and for the drinks which make them violent with money they get from the state. They should never have had the money in the first place."

"What we tried to do today was impose a penalty of reasonable hardship. There were £40 fines and compensation to pay."

Leader page 13

Leads: On future energy supplies, from Sir Derek Ezra and Professor J. Kolbitz; on money supply and inflation, from Professor Lord Khan.

Leading articles: The office of DPP: Lessons to be learnt from Heathrow. Features: pages 10 and 12. Bernard Levin on Spain's new freedom to choose: David Spaulley on Britons who find themselves in a tight spot abroad: Katie Stewart's cookery column.

Arts: page 11. William Gaunt on Late Gothic Art from Cologne (National Gallery) and Paul Overy on other London exhibitions: Stanley Reynolds on The Nobel Prize (BBC2): Robert Shelton on the Country Music Festival at Wembley.

Sport: page 12. Tottenham in deep trouble after losing to Bristol: Rugby Union: Barbarians force draw with Newport: Boxing: Inter beaten by American. Business News: pages 15-20. Stock markets: In light trading the FT index closed 4.5 up at 407.9. Gilt fell on inflation worries.

Financial Editor: Shifting trends among merchant banks: Diversification: possibilities at AP Cement: Prospects for metal fabricators. Business features: Adrieane Gleeson on why industry is taking the lion's share of hire purchase credit: Hugo Clayton looks at a new manual for food planners. Business Diary: The high stakes involved in being able to tell margarine from butter.

Arts: page 11

William Gaunt on Late Gothic Art from Cologne (National Gallery) and Paul Overy on other London exhibitions: Stanley Reynolds on The Nobel Prize (BBC2): Robert Shelton on the Country Music Festival at Wembley.

Sport: page 12. Tottenham in deep trouble after losing to Bristol: Rugby Union: Barbarians force draw with Newport: Boxing: Inter beaten by American. Business News: pages 15-20. Stock markets: In light trading the FT index closed 4.5 up at 407.9. Gilt fell on inflation worries.

Financial Editor: Shifting trends among merchant banks: Diversification: possibilities at AP Cement: Prospects for metal fabricators. Business features: Adrieane Gleeson on why industry is taking the lion's share of hire purchase credit: Hugo Clayton looks at a new manual for food planners. Business Diary: The high stakes involved in being able to tell margarine from butter.

Arts: page 11

William Gaunt on Late Gothic Art from Cologne (National Gallery) and Paul Overy on other London exhibitions: Stanley Reynolds on The Nobel Prize (BBC2): Robert Shelton on the Country Music Festival at Wembley.

Sport: page 12. Tottenham in deep trouble after losing to Bristol: Rugby Union: Barbarians force draw with Newport: Boxing: Inter beaten by American. Business News: pages 15-20. Stock markets: In light trading the FT index closed 4.5 up at 407.9. Gilt fell on inflation worries.

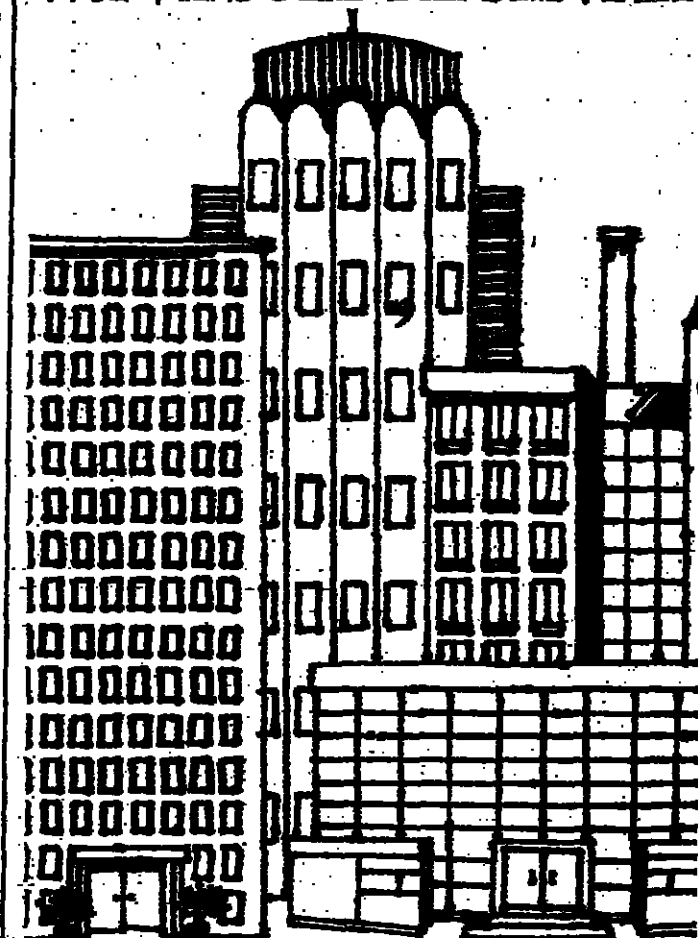
Financial Editor: Shifting trends among merchant banks: Diversification: possibilities at AP Cement: Prospects for metal fabricators. Business features: Adrieane Gleeson on why industry is taking the lion's share of hire purchase credit: Hugo Clayton looks at a new manual for food planners. Business Diary: The high stakes involved in being able to tell margarine from butter.

Arts: page 11

William Gaunt on Late Gothic Art from Cologne (National Gallery) and Paul Overy on other London exhibitions: Stanley Reynolds on The Nobel Prize (BBC2): Robert Shelton on the Country Music Festival at Wembley.

Sport: page 12. Tottenham in deep trouble after losing to Bristol: Rugby Union: Barbarians force draw with Newport: Boxing: Inter beaten by American. Business News: pages 15-20. Stock markets: In light trading the FT index closed 4.5 up at 407.9. Gilt fell on inflation worries.

## A FEW OF THE COUNTRY HOUSES WE'VE SOLD RECENTLY



There's a lot more to KFR than town and country houses. We deal with commercial property in a very big way. Who knows? One day we may be reminding you that we have a residential side too.

**Knight Frank & Rutley**

20 Hanover Square, London W1M 1AE. Tel: 01-629 8171. Telex: 265384. Also in: The City of London, Edinburgh, Associated Offices: Amsterdam, Br. East, Geneva, Lagos, Paris, Tehran.

## Ir Ray Gunter dies in hospital, aged 67

By Craig Seton

Mr Ray Gunter, a former Minister of Labour, was found at his home at St Mary's, 5 of Scilly, yesterday. He was 67, and had been ill for 10 days.

Mr. Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said he was deeply sorry to learn of his death. Mr. Gunter had contributed greatly to the services of his fellow countrymen and women through his work for the trade union movement and the Labour Party.

His first love was the trade union movement, for which he had worked for 25 years. He was a member of the TUC, and had been a member of the TUC since 1945.

Mr. Gunter was a member of the TUC since 1945. He was a member of the TUC since 1945. He was a member of the TUC since 1945.

Mr. Gunter was a member of the TUC since 1945. He was a member of the TUC since 1945. He was a member of the TUC since 1945.

## Teachers in attack on civil servants

By Craig Seton

Civil servants at the Department of Education and Science, whose arrogance is exceeded only by their ignorance, are trying to impose their direction on school curricula, the National Union of Teachers' conference was told. Mr. Max Morris, a former union president, said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

Mr. Morris said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

Mr. Morris said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

Mr. Morris said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

Mr. Morris said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

Mr. Morris said the profession faced the danger of control by civil servants. The conference resolved to take action if any member was redeployed compulsorily.

## Anti-dumping duty on Japanese steel

By Craig Seton

New curbs on some steel imports from Japan have been imposed by the Government. The restrictions, designed to head off a consignment of nearly 20,000 tonnes of steel on the way to British and European ports, impose a provisional anti-dumping duty of £20 a tonne on the imports.

Mr. Howell said that the fines, the highest of which was £40, did not appear to bear any relation to the intention of the Government, which was proposing to increase fines for football hooliganism to a maximum of £1,000. "The use of detention and attendance centres seems to have more merit than inadequate fines," he said.

He has asked the police and Charlton Athletic to give him full reports of Monday's disturbances, but said: "This sort of behaviour has got to be stopped. If it means fans will be denied access to the terraces then that is what we shall do. It is not the first time."

Chelsea supporters have been involved in something like this.

In the Commons last week Mr. Howell announced a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. The Football League and the Football Association, he said, would ensure that all Manchester United away matches would be ticketed only occasions. In no circumstances would tickets be available on the day of the match.

Chairman's reply: Mr. Roger Fyson, aged 63, chairman of the magistrates who fined the five Chelsea supporters, said last night: "I think our penalties were just. It may be all right for Mr. Howell to talk in terms of £1,000 fines. He should try collecting them."

## Dr Owen arrives in Cape Town

By Craig Seton

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has arrived in Cape Town for the most crucial part of his tour of Africa in search of a possible solution to Rhodesia's constitutional problems. He seemed encouraged by the way the tour had gone so far.

Mr. Howell said that the fines, the highest of which was £40, did not appear to bear any relation to the intention of the Government, which was proposing to increase fines for football hooliganism to a maximum of £1,000. "The use of detention and attendance centres seems to have more merit than inadequate fines," he said.

He has asked the police and Charlton Athletic to give him full reports of Monday's disturbances, but said: "This sort of behaviour has got to be stopped. If it means fans will be denied access to the terraces then that is what we shall do. It is not the first time."

Chelsea supporters have been involved in something like this.

In the Commons last week Mr. Howell announced a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. The Football League and the Football Association, he said, would ensure that all Manchester United away matches would be ticketed only occasions. In no circumstances would tickets be available on the day of the match.

Chairman's reply: Mr. Roger Fyson, aged 63, chairman of the magistrates who fined the five Chelsea supporters, said last night: "I think our penalties were just. It may be all right for Mr. Howell to talk in terms of £1,000 fines. He should try collecting them."

## Chelsea Hotel sold

By Craig Seton

Arab interests may have been involved in the £6m purchase of the Chelsea Hotel in Sloane Street. The purchaser is Rangate, a British registered company, acting for Swiss clients. A Rangate director acted for Arab buyers of the Dorchester and for King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Howell said that the fines, the highest of which was £40, did not appear to bear any relation to the intention of the Government, which was proposing to increase fines for football hooliganism to a maximum of £1,000. "The use of detention and attendance centres seems to have more merit than inadequate fines," he said.

He has asked the police and Charlton Athletic to give him full reports of Monday's disturbances, but said: "This sort of behaviour has got to be stopped. If it means fans will be denied access to the terraces then that is what we shall do. It is not the first time."

Chelsea supporters have been involved in something like this.

In the Commons last week Mr. Howell announced a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. The Football League and the Football Association, he said, would ensure that all Manchester United away matches would be ticketed only occasions. In no circumstances would tickets be available on the day of the match.

Chairman's reply: Mr. Roger Fyson, aged 63, chairman of the magistrates who fined the five Chelsea supporters, said last night: "I think our penalties were just. It may be all right for Mr. Howell to talk in terms of £1,000 fines. He should try collecting them."

## Sex education

By Craig Seton

A booklet denouncing sexual intercourse outside marriage and describing homosexual practices as perversion and abortion as murder has been written by a doctor and a vicar.

Mr. Howell said that the fines, the highest of which was £40, did not appear to bear any relation to the intention of the Government, which was proposing to increase fines for football hooliganism to a maximum of £1,000. "The use of detention and attendance centres seems to have more merit than inadequate fines," he said.

He has asked the police and Charlton Athletic to give him full reports of Monday's disturbances, but said: "This sort of behaviour has got to be stopped. If it means fans will be denied access to the terraces then that is what we shall do. It is not the first time."

Chelsea supporters have been involved in something like this.

In the Commons last week Mr. Howell announced a wide range of measures to control football hooliganism. The Football League and the Football Association, he said, would ensure that all Manchester United away matches would be ticketed only occasions. In no circumstances would tickets be available on the day of the match.

Chairman's reply: Mr. Roger Fyson, aged 63, chairman of the magistrates who fined the five Chelsea supporters, said last night: "I think our penalties were just. It may be all right for Mr. Howell to talk in terms of £1,000 fines. He should try collecting them."

## Local taxes hitch



## HOME NEWS

## Teachers' former leader talks of 'sinister aims of desiccated mandarins at DES'

From Tim Devlin  
Education Correspondent  
Eastbourne

Civil servants at the Department of Education and Science know nothing about education, Mr. Max Morris, a former president of the National Union of Teachers, said yesterday. They put forward an idea that came into their heads, and stayed inside the "closed walls" of their department, not taking account of public opinion.

He told the union's annual conference at Eastbourne, that when Mrs. Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, addressed the conference today she would almost certainly say that she had no plans to intervene in the curriculum.

But he continued: "Behind Shirley Williams are the desiccated bureaucrats of the DES, whose aims are far more sinister. There is no doubt whatsoever that their intention is to introduce some major form of direction. We are faced with the dangers of control by civil servants whose arrogance is exceeded only by their ignorance."

Later, Mr. Frank Harris, of York University told the conference: "Max Morris is dead right about the mandarins in the DES. Some of them have come direct from the Treasury to the DES."

Putting forward a plan to save some of the 30 teacher training colleges under threat of closure, Mr. Harris advocated a four-year course to replace the three-year teacher training course. It would contain larger elements of professional training and would involve 5,000 more students.

## Recording of minor offences ends

From Bert Lodge, of The Times  
Educational Supplement  
Torquay

A one-man campaign has ended the Department of Education and Science's continued recording of teachers' minor traffic offences.

Mr. Wallace Tyrie, a teacher at a Newquay school, told the annual conference of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers at Torquay yesterday that he had been told by the department on April 5 that police reports of teachers' convictions would no longer be recorded. The Home Office told chief constables four years ago that such offences need not be reported.

All criminal convictions of teachers are reported to the department to see whether the offender is suitable to continue teaching. But after the report of a Home Office working party set up in 1973 a circular was sent out recommending that traffic offences for which there was no power of disqualification should not generally be included.

The conference adopted a resolution that there should be discussions with the depart-



Miss Essie Codling: examples of violence.

ment on what offences made a teacher unsuitable. Since 1973 about 500 teachers a year have been reported to the department after criminal conviction. Of their offences, about 45 per cent were financial, a fifth were sexual, a tenth involved violence and 15 per cent concerned drink and drugs. The remaining 15 per cent included motoring offences not involving drink or drugs.

On average, 50 teachers a year are put on list 99, which

means that they are disqualified until their case is reviewed. The conference also called for special exclusion centres for disruptive pupils to be established outside school. Miss Essie Codling, a Leeds supply teacher, said that even where centres had been set up there were cases of pupils having to be excluded from the exclusion centre.

Miss Codling told the conference that in her own area a boy of 14 had threatened other pupils with a airgun and then fired it at his headmaster, but missed. She gave an account of gang warfare in the playground by a group of 40 boys and said a pupil had leapt from a first-floor window in a school, injuring a teacher. Five girls had tried to kill themselves because of bullying, she said.

The delegates passed a motion reasserting their intention to provide appropriate support for teachers faced with disciplinary troubles. "Isolated incidents": Mr. Patrick Crotty, chairman of Leeds education committee said last night that Miss Codling was referring only to isolated incidents (our Leeds Correspondent writes) added that the committee would have a report on the work of the two units that dealt with about 12 disruptive children "in due course".

Party leaders are lining up for the next by-election battle

## Main issues at Grimsby will boil down to fish

From Ronald Kershaw  
Grimsby

It is easy to feel depressed in Grimsby, particularly for the town's 4,500 unemployed. Even in bright spring sunshine an air of despair is detectable around the fish docks, and the usual observation about the present recession is that nobody can see an end to it.

It might be supposed that anybody who could produce the vestige of a hope of better times would have the ear of the electorate, but that is not so—at least not yet. Admittedly these are early days in the by-election battle for Grimsby, which takes place on April 28, and as it gathers pace enthusiasm may be generated.

But at present it is restricted to party workers. It is possible to tour the network of streets around the town centre without seeing a party poster.

It is already clear that the contest to elect a successor to the late Mr. Andrew Crossland will be fought principally on the fishing issue and unemployment, although in all camps there is talk of national interests such as rising prices and crippling taxes.

Mr. Austin Mitchell, aged 42, prospective Labour candidate, after electioneering over Easter, was quick to take the town's pulse. He said: "The question is: How long do fish landings on the present disastrous scale have to go on before the politicians can see the need to save our fishing industry?"

The distant-water side of the Grimsby fleet is still waiting for an agreement on Iceland. Mr. Mitchell says. At the same time he puts in a strong case for a 30-mile exclusive fishing zone for the British. An opponent of the EEC, he predicts that the present common fishery policy will be a disaster for Grimsby, and that the Government "no concession on our rights".

The supporters of Mr. Robert Blair, aged 51, the prospective Conservative candidate, delight in proclaiming that he started work at 15 in Aberdeen fish markets, has been an assistant auctioneer, a dock clerk, a costing clerk and various kinds of manager and is at present with Birds Eye. He expanded the Grimsby factory into the

largest frozen food factory in the world, bringing prosperity to the fishing and farming communities and, over the years, jobs to thousands of people in the town.

Not only that, his wife, a Grimsby girl, is daughter of a salmon net skipper, and his son is a fish merchant. All in all, it can be said that he is well versed for the fishing argument. He says that the jobs of half the workers of Grimsby are related in some way to the industry.

The prospective Liberal candidate, Mr. Andrew De Freitas, aged 32, also has links with the fishing industry. He has been an administrative officer in the shipping industry. He has a certain amount of local pull, having been a town councillor for seven years, and believes that people know he has local interests, including fishing, at heart.

An advocate for a 50-mile fishing zone, he also wishes to destroy Humber-side County Council and restore Grimsby's former glory as a borough governing its own destiny. He campaigns passionately for development areas status for Humber-side. He admits that, so far, the move away from Labour is not as pronounced as he

thought it would be, but he believes that Liberal voters like the idea of a Liberal-Labour arrangement.

Many imponderables are raised in this by-election. The most discussed is whether Mr. Mitchell's television image, sometimes aggressive, sometimes clowning, will help or hinder him. His opponents recall with satisfaction the outcry when Anglia Television was replaced in Lincolnshire by Yorkshire Television. Mr. Mitchell's present employer.

Some Yorkshire people think that their Lincolnshire neighbours, and that includes Grimsby, are "a funny lot", stuck at the end of a road leading nowhere. Nevertheless the big guns of all three parties will find their way in Grimsby in the next couple of weeks, including Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Heath, Mr. Whitbaw, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Mr. David Owen, Mr. John Silkin and Mrs. Shirley Williams. Despite that, there is a distinct feeling that in the end it will all boil down to fish.

General election: C. A. R. Crossland (Lab) 24,637; K. C. Brown (C) 14,675; D. M. Rigby (L), 9,487; J. McIlrea (Ind Dem-Lab), 156. Lab majority, 5,682.

## SNP plans advance at Labour's expense

From Ronald Faux  
Edinburgh

The Scottish district council elections on May 3 will be the first formal test of public opinion since the devolution Bill founded and since the pact between the Labour and Liberal parties was made. The Scottish National Party plans to use the campaign to increase its presence in traditionally Labour areas in the central belt.

Nominations for elections to 53 district councils closed yesterday and the latest opinion poll showed the SNP moving ahead with a 9 per cent lead over the Labour and Conservative parties. Many nationalists regard the district elections as an excellent test of public opinion and a way of projecting the party. Others think the SNP should not become too closely involved in local government at this stage of the campaign to win independence.

In Dundee, nine of the district seats is being contested by a nationalist candidate. Mr. Gordon Wilson, the nationalist MP for Dundee, East, said: "The decision was made by the local party concentrate entirely on parliamentary elections because they are thought to be more important. The belief is that a general election is extremely likely this autumn."

The SNP is not strongly represented in the nominations in rural areas and Aberdeen but elsewhere it will more than double its efforts. These will be the first elections for the Scottish districts since they were formed in May, 1974. The Conservatives are 24, Labour 416, Conservative 24, SNP 71, Liberal 18, Independent 344. The break-away Scottish Labour Party is entering 35 candidates and running a membership campaign at the same time.

The size of the vote the nationalists can achieve is sure to worry the Labour Party. It is the fear that the SNP might take over Glasgow and Edinburgh if the swing to the nationalists matches the latest opinion poll. An SNP official said: "The difficulty for us is that much of our new support comes from young people who are less likely to turn out than ratepayers or anyone who has had to pay the cost of this new local government."

The party is contesting 41 seats in Edinburgh district council in West Lothian, where Mr. Tam Dalyell, the Labour MP and Mr. William Wolfe, the SNP chairman, have spent more than a decade fighting the parliamentary seat, the nationalist is contesting all 21 district seats.

Traditionally the SNP has been cautious about fighting local elections. Some years ago nationalists elected to Glasgow and Edinburgh councils had an unhappy and unsuccessful time. "They were inexperienced and in a minority with a lot of hostility against them," a party official explained yesterday. "Some had not seriously expected to be elected, and did not realize the implications."

A System Three poll published in the *Glasgow Herald* yesterday was based on a sample of 963 adults between March 26 and April 3. They were asked which party they would vote for if there was a general election tomorrow. The result was as follows:

| Party    | Now | Feb '77 | Gen. est. |
|----------|-----|---------|-----------|
| CNP      | 36  | 31      | 30        |
| SNP      | 27  | 32      | 25        |
| Lab      | 27  | 29      | 38        |
| L        | 5   | 5       | 8         |
| Scot Lab | 3   | 3       | —         |

## Ways of getting more open government

By Peter Hennessy

The way to achieve greater openness in government is through a "shift in mental attitudes" by civil servants "reared" in the tradition of reticence, published this week by the Royal Institute of Public Administration.

Mr. Ronald Wraith, senior research officer at the institute, argues that legislation to compel government departments to disclose working documents and internal communications not prepared for publication would be costly in money and manpower. He recommends instead a gradual approach in which change would be embedded in administrative culture.

An alternative view, making the case for a freedom of information Act along American lines, is proposed this week by Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties. In the council's annual report she argues that the onus should be placed on governments to reveal details of their operation.

Miss Hewitt condemns as inadequate the present Government's policy of combining disclosure of minutes and a new secrecy law which will protect government more effectively with the publication of more Green Papers or consultative documents.

The Home Office is preparing material for an Official Information Bill of between 20 and 30 clauses to replace the discredited section two of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, the latest report of Mr. Rees, Home Secretary, announced in November.

Narrower in scope but siter in operation than section two, the Bill's contents will be discussed before the summer recess by the Cabinet committee set up by the Prime Minister last year. The Bill will probably be introduced in the next session of Parliament.

To complement the new Act Whitehall will probably revise, through the administrative means favoured by Mr. Wraith, the disclosure of official information.

Two documents will need to be amended to reflect the more open climate to which ministers have committed themselves: the Civil Service code of conduct and the establishment officers' guide, which prescribe the conditions under which authorized disclosures can be made.

It is emphasized in Whitehall that no dilution of the doctrine of ministerial responsibility is intended or implied by the new arrangements. Open Government, *The British Interpretation*, by Ronald Wraith. (RIPA, Hamilton House, Stable Place, London WC1E 9SB, £1.90).

## Tory local tax plans will miss elections

By George Clark  
Political Correspondent

To the embarrassment of some of its candidates, the Conservative Party will enter the local government election campaign next month without having completed the drafting of its plan to replace the domestic rating system with "taxes more broadly based and related to people's ability to pay."

The party said last night that a group that has been preparing the alternative policy expects to publish its conclusions in about eight weeks' time, after the local council elections.

Mr. Michael Heseltine, spokesman on the environment, Mr. Keith Speed, spokesman on local government, and party specialists from the Commons and local government are preparing measures to cover domestic and commercial rates, control of council spending by cash limits, greater freedom for authorities to decide priorities, and raising capital.

As the Conservative local government conference in February showed, many Tory councillors are sceptical about the party's ability to propose a workable alternative to the

present system, which combines locally raised rates with annual grants from the Exchequer.

Apparently there have been more objections to the idea of a locally collected income tax in addition to central taxes. But Mr. Graham Page, Minister for Local Government, from 1970 to 1974 believes that the central taxation system could be adapted.

He has introduced a private member's Bill in the Commons, due for second reading on April 22, which would allow the Inland Revenue to act as agent for raising authorities. In effect a supplement to income tax and corporation tax would be passed on to the relevant local authority.

"The amount would be a limit on the tax that could be levied, and it would be specified each year in the Finance Bill," Mr. Page said. "I would propose that it should be between 5p and 8p in the pound."

Mrs. Thatcher and others have pointed out the difficulty of collecting local revenue through the income tax system, but Mr. Page says it could be overcome by taxpayers' declaring their places of residence in annual returns.

For businesses, the rate would be levied on the gross value added, not on trading within the local government area.

## 14 in alleged conspiracy sent for trial

Fourteen men charged in connection with an alleged international fraud conspiracy were committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court from Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, after committal proceedings that started on February 1.

Another man who had been charged died after a heart attack in March. Thirteen are accused of plotting to cheat by use of stolen documents and conspiring to forge or utter such documents. Three are charged with conspiring to cheat by use of metal purporting to be of pure gold.

Ten are charged with conspiring to contravene the Criminal Justice Act, 1971, by forging or uttering passports and other identity documents. Two are charged with possessing 46,000 forged American dollars, notes and one with possessing 3,779,000 forged Spanish pesetas in notes.

**Royal Pavilion repairs**  
Restoration of the music room at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, badly damaged by an arsonist, is to begin next month after settlement of a £225,000 insurance claim.

**Miner falls to death**  
Mr. Wyndham Jones, aged 39, a miner, of Wymond, Porthenry, Dyfed, died yesterday when he fell 600ft down a pit shaft at Cyndreide colliery, near Llanelli.

## Secrecy of Liberal and Labour talks attacked

By Our Political Staff

The secrecy surrounding the regular talks between the Government and the Liberal Party was attacked last night by a number of MPs.

Mr. Leon Brittan, Conservative MP for Cleveland and Whitby, speaking at Whiteby, said: "In spite of the Liberals' insistence that the initial terms of the talks should be made public, it is impossible to take place behind closed doors. No pattern of government could be less stable than that, and none could be less democratic."

Mr. Brittan, an opposition

## Prison officers introducing stricter measures

From Our Correspondent  
Liverpool

Prison officers at Walton jail, Liverpool, voted yesterday not to "withdraw cooperation" which would have kept prisoners longer in their cells. But security is to become stricter. Film shows in darkened rooms are being stopped and exercise periods further reduced.

The decisions were made at a mass meeting after expressions of concern about officers' safety had been voiced after two guns found in the prison.

## A regular appearance for specials

By Clive Borrell  
Crime Correspondent

The Home Secretary has recommended to chief constables that the 23,000 Special Constabulary officers in England and Wales should wear uniforms similar to those of the full-time police.

They would have died cap-bands in areas where those are worn by regular officers and, apart from the position of their distinctive badges of rank, they would, at first sight, appear to be members of the regular force.

Mr. Rees, who is urging the implementation of the recommendations of a Home Office working party that agreed the suggestion that the specials' rank should be indicated on their epaulettes. A sergeant, for example, would wear a silver bar on his shoulder and an inspector two bars.

The working party, which has been examining the role of the specials for three years, suggested that the rank of special chief inspector should become divisional commander, indicated by three bars on each epaulet. A chief constable would have four bars.

Mr. Alexander Baker, an assistant under-secretary of state at the Home Office, who was chairman of the working party, said yesterday: "We have done our best to exorcise the difficulties that naturally arise between some members of the regular police force and the specials."

He emphasized that specials would always be under the supervision of regular officers, some of whom have been embarrassed in the past when escorting and directing men of seemingly high rank.

"There will never be a situation where regular officers have to take orders from members of the special constabulary," he said. "If there are solely voluntary help."

Recruiting to the Special Constabulary has dropped by more than 20,000 in the past decade, and the force has just over 23,000 members. The number of woman volunteers has risen, and in some areas there have been more coloured applicants.

## Murdered Yemenis seen as victims of local politics

After more than 48 hours of intensive inquiries into the murder of al-Qadi Abdullah al-Hajri, the former North Yemeni Prime Minister, Scotland Yard said yesterday that it was satisfied that the killing was linked with local Arab politics.

Mr. al-Hajri's wife, Fatimah, and Mr. Abdullah al-Hammami, minister plenipotentiary at the London embassy, were also shot dead by a gunman as they sat in a car outside the Royal Lancaster Hotel, Bayswater, on Sunday. The gunman vanished into crowds in Bayswater Road.

Diplomats in London have been reassured that there is no reason to believe any international terrorist is at large. Inquiries are being coordinated by Commander James Nevill, head of the anti-terrorism branch, and Commander Rolfo Watts, deputy head of the Special Branch.

Investigations in Arab circles in London were ordered after a conference at Scotland Yard, to establish the motive for the killings. Mr. al-Hajri's death is thought to be in revenge for

some personal or political incident in the past. He was an important and powerful figure in his country.

Before the bodies of the three North Yemenis were flown home Scotland Yard obtained permission for post-mortem examinations to obtain evidence if a charge of murder is brought. An inquest into the deaths will open at Westminster Coroner's Court tomorrow.

Detectives yesterday continued to question members of the hotel staff and made door-to-door inquiries in the neighbourhood. Commander Nevill appeared to anyone with possible information to get in touch with the murder squad headquarters at Paddington Green police station.

The gunman may have left the country soon after the shooting, but the murder squad believe he is hiding in London, possibly being protected by fellow countrymen.

Sana'a, North Yemen, April 12.—A large crowd including Col. Ibrahim al-Hamdi, the head of state, attended the funeral here today of the former prime minister. Mourners also included Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, the North Yemeni Prime Minister.—Agence France-Press.

## RUC in hunt for three dangerous men

From Stewart Tendler  
Belfast

Discussions and photographs of three men wanted by the RUC in connection with murder and violence in the south Londonderry area were issued yesterday. In the next few days the police plan to flood the area with leaflets urging the public to help them to find the men, a technique rarely employed in Ulster.

All three men come from Bellaghy, Co. Londonderry; one, Ian Patrick Milne, aged 22, has been on the run from Londonderry since he was 17. The other two are named as Dominic McGinley, aged 22, and Francis Hughes, aged 21. An RUC statement, yesterday described the men as highly dangerous.

The south Londonderry area has recently begun to acquire a notoriety similar to that of South Armagh. So far this year there have been seven murders in there. Last Friday two policemen were shot dead when they tried to stop a car near Money more. Since the killings troops from three regiments have been scouring the area with the police. Many booby-trap bombs have been placed, and there have been 17 attacks on RUC stations.

Yesterday Mr. Gerard Fitt, MP for Belfast, West, said he would question Mr. Callaghan and the Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland and Defence about a new computer being used by the Army. He said that soldiers had questioned householders in several parts of Belfast in what appeared to be a census. The Army says the computer will be used to process records on suspects and

weapons, which have previously been kept on manual records. The Irish Government is considering what to do about a demonstration, planned by Provisional Sinn Féin in Dublin next Saturday, in support of 20 IRA men on hunger strike in a prison hospital. The signs are that it will not ban the demonstration on the ground that it might increase support for it.

Last year the Government banned a rally to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Easter rising, but the event went ahead with 5,000 people in attendance and drew support from a member of the Irish Parliament.

The 20 men are protesting at conditions in Portlaoise jail, where they were held and have been refusing food for more than 20 days. They include David O'Connell, vice-president of Provisional Sinn Féin, and a former chief of staff of the Provisional IRA.

## Two join leaders in Walbrook chess contest

From a Chess Correspondent  
Birmingham

The seventh round of the Walbrook International chess tournament in Birmingham ended last night with a draw between East and Lugubohli to join the leaders yesterday after some exciting games. Danjanovic could make no more progress on his lead and draw was agreed after 39 moves.

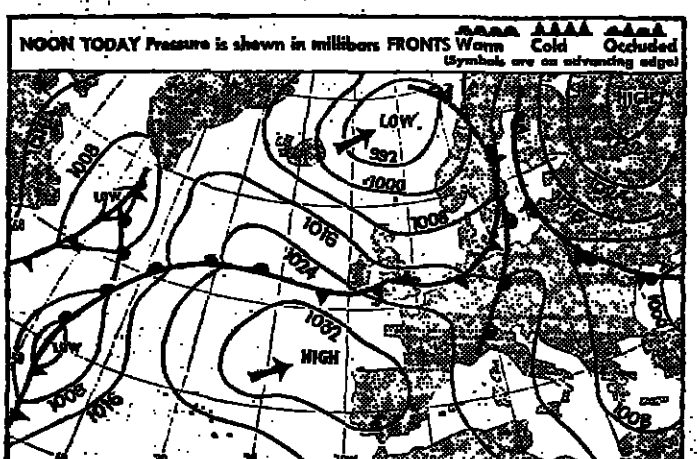
The other overnight leader, Botterill, also had a level struggle with Kozlovskiy. Botterill found Razman in poor form after the Londoner had won a long, adjourned game against East. The result was a draw.

Botterill, also had a level struggle with Kozlovskiy. Botterill found Razman in poor form after the Londoner had won a long, adjourned game against East. The result was a draw.

**Phone threat charge**  
Ajit Maibor, aged 28, a company director, who lives in California, was sent by Uxbridge magistrates for trial at the Central Criminal Court, charged with making a telephone call threatening to blow up a British Airways jumbo jet.

**Bobby Moore fined**  
Bobby Moore, the former England football captain, was banned from driving for a year and fined £150 by magistrates at Stratford, London, yesterday, after admitting driving with excess blood alcohol.

## Weather forecast and recordings



**Today**  
Sun rises: 6.10 am  
Sun sets: 7.54 pm  
Moon rises: 3.38 am  
Moon sets: 2.46 pm

**Light moon: April 18.**  
Low water: London Bridge, 10.29 am, 6.12m (20.1ft); 10.56 pm, 6.0m (19.6ft).  
High water: London Bridge, 10.29 am, 6.12m (20.1ft); 10.56 pm, 6.0m (19.6ft).  
Dover, 6.12 am, 5.5m (18.2ft); 8.40 pm, 5.6m (18.5ft).  
Bristol, 5.58 am, 6.0m (19.6ft); 8.16 pm, 5.8m (19.1ft).  
Liverpool, 8.13 am, 6.0m (19.6ft); 9.2 pm, 7.8m (25.6ft).

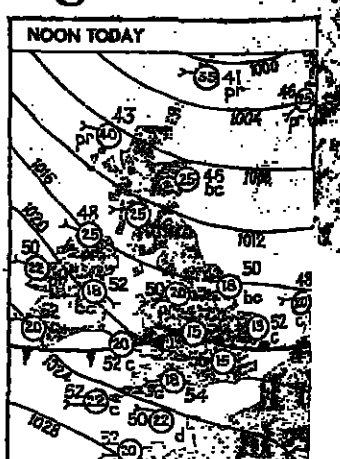
**SW England, Wales:** Cloudy, occasional rain, hill fog, bright or clear intervals and scattered showers later: wind W, veering NW, fresh; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

**NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Lancs, York, North York, NW Yorks, and NW Yorks:** Wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

**Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Bright or sunny intervals, showers, turning wintry mists; wind W, veering NW, strong to gale; max temp 7° to 8°C (45° to 46°F).

**Outlook for tomorrow and Friday:** c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

**WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY:** c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.



**Today**  
Sun rises: 6.10 am  
Sun sets: 7.54 pm  
Moon rises: 3.38 am  
Moon sets: 2.46 pm

**Light moon: April 18.**  
Low water: London Bridge, 10.29 am, 6.12m (20.1ft); 10.56 pm, 6.0m (19.6ft).  
High water: London Bridge, 10.29 am, 6.12m (20.1ft); 10.56 pm, 6.0m (19.6ft).  
Dover, 6.12 am, 5.5m (18.2ft); 8.40 pm, 5.6m (18.5ft).  
Bristol, 5.58 am, 6.0m (19.6ft); 8.16 pm, 5.8m (19.1ft).  
Liverpool, 8.13 am, 6.0m (19.6ft); 9.2 pm, 7.8m (25.6ft).

**SW England, Wales:** Cloudy, occasional rain, hill fog, bright or clear intervals and scattered showers later: wind W, veering NW, fresh; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

**NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Lancs, York, North York, NW Yorks, and NW Yorks:** Wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 12° to 14°C (54° to 57°F).

**Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** Bright or sunny intervals, showers, turning wintry mists; wind W, veering NW, strong to gale; max temp 7° to 8°C (45° to 46°F).

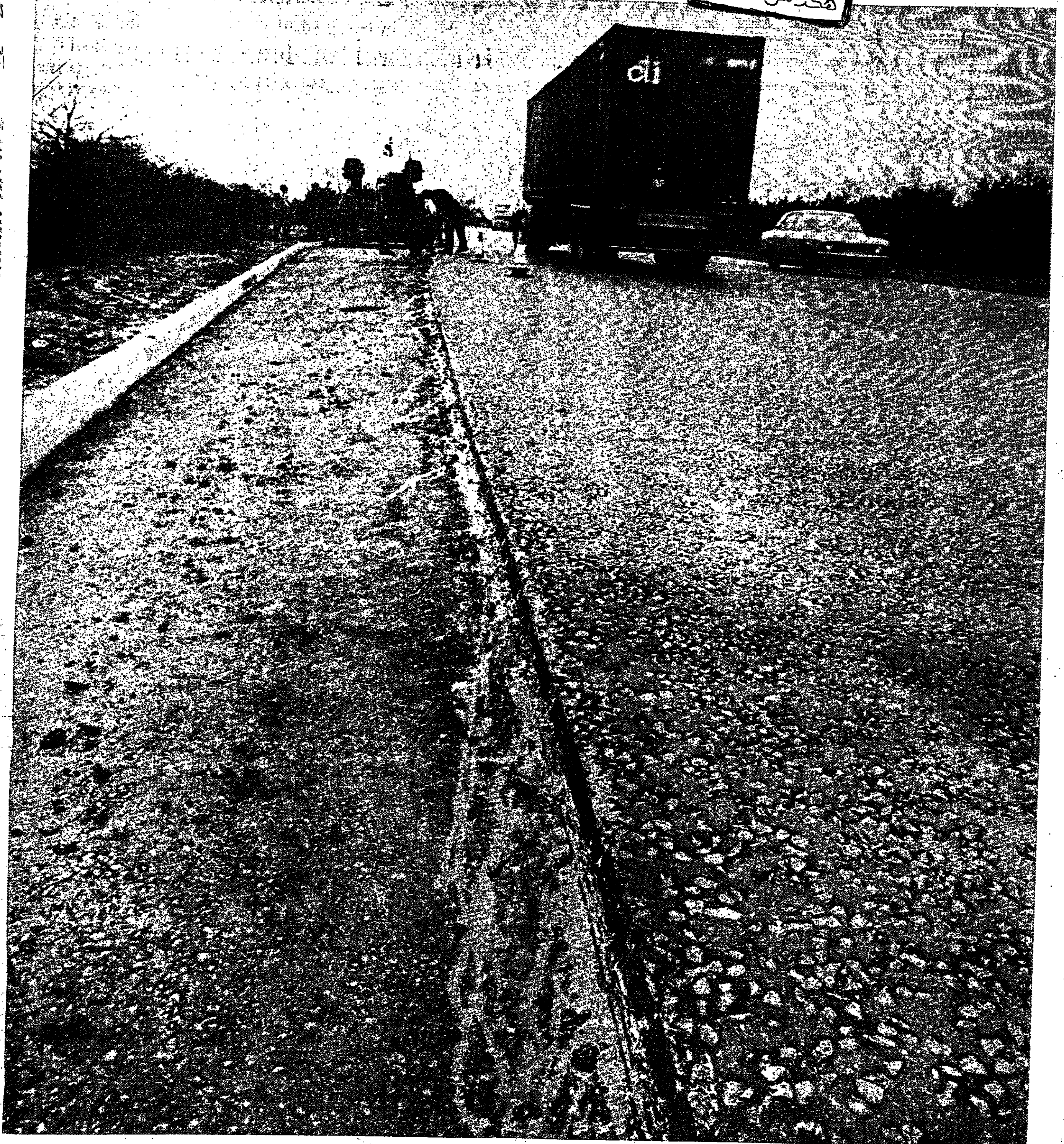
**Outlook for tomorrow and Friday:** c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

**WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY:** c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.



Work carried out by Suffolk County Council as agents for Department of Transport (Engineer for works Mr. E. L. Williams, County Surveyor).

هكذا من العمل



Photograph: Giza Wylie

## Topping topping

Bitumen, as a surfacing for roads like the stretch of A-45 between Ipswich and Felixstowe shown here, is one of the best materials available. Absolutely topping, as they used to say. It's economical, easy to apply, long-lasting.

And the nice thing is, bitumen comes from the bottom of the oil barrel to help us make the most of an increasingly valuable resource. By producing bitumen from the sticky residue at the barrel's bottom, we make the whole barrel more useful.

The bitumen serves this country's need for new, improved roads. And it makes good business sense for us to coax as many uses as possible from a vital energy source. (Some of the other products from petroleum are chemicals, waxes, and greases—all from the same basic raw material.) We've only been in the road surfacing business for three years—after almost 100 years as a major petroleum company in Britain. Still, by last year we had become one of the country's important bitumen suppliers.

We're regularly coming up with new formulations for road surfacing at our laboratory in Coryton. Another service of our Coryton lab involves free advice for towns and cities having trouble with their road surfaces. That service has proved extremely helpful, we're told.

All this just goes to show, we suppose, that—if you're ingenious and hard-working, and a little bit lucky in this business—after 100 years you'll wind up tops at the bottom.

**Mobil®**







## OVERSEAS

هكذا من العمل

Strauss pleads for closer links with America

## Mr Carter listens to music in his office while speed-reading through files of policy documents

From Fred Emery  
Washington, April 12

Scathing comments at the expense of his most prominent Cabinet members, all against a constant background of classical music—this is the novel office view of President Carter.

The President allowed a *Time* magazine reporter, as he has also allowed a television network, to depict a day in his life at work.

Off at 6.45 am and back for dinner with family by 7 pm (but no longer home for lunch), Mr Carter is depicted as having much more of rough and tumble of trade-offs and bargains than he would like.

He is a voracious reader; he perused items totalling 1,384 pages one recent week, his secretary recorded.

He is rather proud of completing a recent speed-reading course with his family; and the Carters now rip through 1,200 words a minute. The final examination consisted of reading, in one evening, three books, including *Of Mice and Men*.

Mr Carter is fond of self-improvement, we are told. His secretary gives him an index of

the records he feeds into the hi-fi set, including both popular and classical music, so that Mr Carter can make mental notes of what he hears while speeding through the documents.

His very close assistants are Mr Hamilton Jordan and Mr Jody Powell, both youthful, loyal retainers from his Georgia days. They are always around.

The scathing comments are exchanges with Mr Jordan, Mr Michael Blumenthal, the Treasury Secretary, and Dr Charles Schultze, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, have sent the President a memorandum insisting that they be consulted in full, and in advance, before any final decisions are made on the President's controversial energy policy which is to be announced next week.

"They treat me like I'm an idiot," Carter says to Jordan. "Do they think I would make a policy without consulting the other members of the Cabinet?"

"I gather you think you're competent to do the job?" Jordan asks with a grin.

The *Time* reporter was not, it seems, permitted inside a Carter's office on the energy policy. It lasted for a half hour, with the President taking an

active part for three and a half hours. Interestingly included, apart from the policy and liaison men, were Mr Jordan and Mr Powell.

Dr James Schlesinger, the Energy Adviser and formulator of the apparently rough policy, was the butt of the meeting, but he could look after himself.

They were talking about raising prices for energy, and the political fallout. Mr Carter was admiring. "They really took a lot of shots at Schlesinger," he defended himself well. He's a very smart man."

The other Cabinet officer slighted was Mr Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State. Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the National Security Adviser, came in to say that

The Algerians are interested in better relations with us. This prompted Mr Carter to telephone Vice-President Mondale. "With an edge of irritation in his voice, Carter says 'I want to tell you [Vance] and Zbig that I want them to move in every possible way to get Somalia to be our friend. We're just sitting around,' he tells Mondale, 'I've told you that before.'"



Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and his wife take leave of their hosts in Dar es Salaam.

## Dr Owen comes to crucial point in Africa tour

From Nicholas Ashford  
Maputo, April 12

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, flew from Maputo to Cape Town tonight for the most crucial part of his southern African tour after a day of talks with leaders in Mozambique that Dr Owen described as "very successful."

It is now evident that his discussions with the South African and Rhodesian prime ministers in Cape Town tomorrow will decide whether it is worth pushing ahead with his proposals to hold a new independence conference on Rhodesia, and whether he will extend his present journey to include Salisbury.

After the completion of the second leg of his tour, Dr Owen appeared satisfied with the way his talks had gone in Tanzania and Mozambique, in spite of some hard talking yesterday with Mr Robert Mugabe, one of the joint leaders of the Rhodesian Patriotic Front. He had expected greater resistance to his suggestions.

Briefing journalists on his RAF VC10 after leaving Maputo, Dr Owen said he had found President Machel "very positive" on two of the central issues they had discussed.

"These were the need for greater American involvement in helping to underwrite any constitutional package that may eventually be agreed upon, and acceptance by the Mozambicans that a new constitutional conference must include the four nationalist groups who attended last year's Geneva talks," he said.

These are the two organizations headed by Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Mugabe, who make up the Patriotic Front alliance, the United African National Council led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, and the faction headed by the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

According to British sources, both President Machel and President Nyerere, of Tanzania, whom Dr Owen saw yesterday, are prepared to qualify their support to the Patriotic Front, as the force that is carrying out the fighting in Rhodesia, recognizing that all shades of opinion should be represented at a conference to decide the country's constitutional future.

During his discussions Dr Owen emphasized that the British Parliament could not be expected to approve a new constitution for Rhodesia unless

everyone had the opportunity to have their voice heard.

This is an issue, however, over which Dr Owen and Mr Mugabe were in disagreement when they met yesterday. Mr Mugabe laid down a set of conditions under which the Patriotic Front would be prepared to take part in a constitutional conference.

One was that the talks should be between only Britain and the Patriotic Front. This is a problem which the British delegation does not regard as untractable, however. The feeling is that, if a conference was called, both Mr Mugabe and Mr Nkomo would be there, whoever else was present. There is no way the British side could agree to deal with the Patriotic Front alone.

Cape Town: Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, said here today that he would go to the talks tomorrow with Dr Owen and Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, with an open mind.

In an interview published this afternoon, he said he would be trying tomorrow to convince Dr Owen to visit Rhodesia because this was clearly the best way of solving the issue. "If he is not pre-

pared to, then I question his honesty and the purpose and seriousness of his visit," he said.

Salisbury: A white Rhodesian train guard was killed yesterday by African nationalist guerrillas who attacked the goods train on which he was working. The attack occurred near Bannockburn, nearly halfway between Gwelo, in the south, and Reurenga, which is on Rhodesia's direct rail link with South Africa.

The dead guard was named as Mr Keith Feldman, aged 20, and single, from Bulawayo, according to the military command disclosing the attack. The guerrillas used small arms but unconfirmed reports said he had been abducted, also said.

In another Easter incident guerrillas in the south-western operational area abducted or recruited about 150 black civilians and took them, under armed escort, across the border into Botswana.

There have been several similar actions in the south-west in recent months, some of them involving schoolchildren, and they are believed to have been carried out by the military wing of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu), whose president is Mr Nkomo.

## 32 narrow escapes in Zagreb air zone

From Dossa Trevisan  
Zagreb, April 11

Thirty-two narrow escapes between airliners were reported in the Zagreb air space during the last five years, two senior flight control officers on trial here disclosed today. In that time Zagreb became the second busiest air crossroads in Europe.

Eight air traffic controllers on duty last September when a British Airways Trident and a Yugoslav DCS collided, killing 176 people, are charged with negligence and failure to obey instructions, coming late to work and not using the standard English terminology.

Ante Delic, chief of the regional air traffic control, said that the complaints received and acted upon came mainly from Yugoslav pilots. Two controllers were dismissed for carelessness and for lack of training.

During this five-year period there had been 700,000 flights in the Zagreb air region. Both Mr Delic and Milan Munjas, in charge of the air traffic controllers, denied being slack over rules and discipline, but said the rapidly expanding air traffic did create problems particularly as regards trained personnel and technical equipment.

According to Mr Delic, the Zagreb centre needed 40 trained air controllers and was making do with 30.

In this respect, Yugoslavia was behind other advanced European states, but since the disaster this state of affairs had been rapidly improved.

Mr Delic described Mr Tasic, the chief defendant, as an excellent air controller. He recalled him saving an aircraft from disaster by warning the pilot that the undercarriage was not down only seconds before it landed.

At the time of the disaster, Mr Tasic was alone as his assistant, also on trial, was 10 minutes late for work. He was handling 11 flights, regarded as the maximum, but thought he could cope.

The trial is expected to last well into May.

## Mrs Thatcher hears English lesson

From David Bonavia  
Shanghai, April 12

Mrs Margaret Thatcher attended an English lesson at Shanghai's main university today during which articles from *The Times* were used as teaching material.

Mrs Thatcher and her party, who are staying in a hotel in the city, heard the English teacher tell his class about two articles from *The Times*, which described the bad state of consumer goods and service industries in the Soviet Union.

Although the performance had been planned in advance, the exchange between teacher and students was quite lively by comparison with the stilted and carefully rehearsed English class which Mr Edward Heath was shown during his visit to Peking University in 1974. The choice of teaching material was presumably in response to Mrs Thatcher's known anti-Soviet attitudes.

The *Times*—an issue of last February—was also on display in the students' reading room together with *The Guardian Weekly* and the *New Statesman*, but it was not clear how many students saw fit to read them.

Mrs Thatcher, who holds a degree in chemistry, spent nearly an hour looking at scientific instruments and questioning research workers closely on technical matters. The campus of Peking University had been cleaned recently, according to informed sources who said that garbage

had been piling up there for several months. It appears that the more lax political atmosphere prevailing since the purge of the so-called "gang of four" has affected the students' normal zeal in cleaning their own campus.

British journalists were later taken to the Shanghai docks and given a detailed briefing which the media leadership tried to incite the people's militia, through the paid unions, to rise against the Peking leadership headed by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

Spokesmen at the docks said that the new disgraced city leadership succeeded for some five days in preventing the people of Shanghai from learning that Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao Tse-tung's widow, and other members of the "gang of four" had been arrested on the instructions of Chairman Hua.

The people learnt the truth through foreign radio broadcasts and demanded the dismissal of the gang's supporters who controlled the city, the spokesman said.

Commons question: Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, is facing questions in the Commons about Mrs Thatcher's visit to China.

## Mr Young sees good in Cuban role

Washington, April 12—Mr

Andrew Young, the American representative at the United Nations, said today that America should not be alarmed by communist activity in Africa.

At a meeting with journalists Mr Young repeated his assertion that the estimated 13,000 Cubans in Angola were playing a stabilizing role, and added that they were protecting American-owned Gulf Oil installations in Cabinda from attacks launched from Zaire.—Reuter.

The lowest tar King Size cigarette  
As shown in H.M. Government tables March 1977

-with Europe's most advanced filter.

PS Extra Mild King Size  
...setting the pace in modern smoking.

LOW TAR GROUP As defined in H.M. Government tables.

EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

## Mrs Gandhi takes blame but keeps party reins

From Our Correspondent  
Delhi, April 12

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India, today accepted full responsibility for the Congress Party's loss in the recent general election. Addressing a meeting of Congress working committee, the party's highest policy-making body, Mrs Gandhi said: "I unreservedly accept responsibility for the defeat."

Before opening the three-day meeting to analyse the defeat, Mrs Gandhi circulated a letter which said it was a matter of "it is good that the change from one government to the other has been peaceful and orderly."

"We respectfully bow to the verdict of the people and wish the new government stability and success in the service of the people," she wrote.

Before the working committee meeting, there were accusations of counter-accusations. Mrs Gandhi and her followers denied that there should be no rest on the elections; their opponents said responsibility for defeat should be placed squarely on the guilty party. Particularly by Mr Sanjay Gandhi, Mrs Gandhi's son, and Mr Bansi Lal, former Defence Minister, it is now more or less certain that Mr Brahamanda Reddy, the

former Home Minister, will be the next President of the Congress Party. He is from the south, where the party swept the Lok Sabha polls, and he is said to be acceptable to Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Reddy will take over from Mr Dev Kanta Barooah who, under a compromise formula, will be allowed to continue until the all-India Congress committee session that is being convened next month.

There was a belated move in favour of Mr Y. B. Chavan, the former External Affairs Minister, as Congress Chief, combining the post of Congress president with that of leader of the parliamentary party, but there was very little support for it.

One thing that has become evident is that Mrs Gandhi still has the biggest following in the party and wants to use her opportunity to crowd out the pro-Communist Party of India group from Congress. She is said to think that Congress lost because of the "progressives" in the party.

Mr Morarji Desai, the Prime Minister, confirmed today to Lord Thomson, the former Commonwealth Secretary and EEC Commissioner, who is Mr Callaghan's personal envoy, that he will attend the Commonwealth conference in London in June.

## Doubt raised by KLM crew about runway clearance

New York, April 12—One of

KLM pilots killed in the id's worst airline disaster in Canary Islands last month, a colleague in the cockpit whether the Pan American it collided with had cleared runway, sources close to investigation said yesterday.

It happened as the KLM jumbo jet was taking off from the runway. The aircraft, which reportedly had not been cleared by the airport, crashed less than 30 seconds later with the Pan American jumbo, which was taking off from the runway.

The crash happened at Tenerife on March 27. A total of 577 people were killed. New York Times News Service.

said to have been obtained from a cockpit playback of the crash-resistant cockpit voice recorder retrieved from the burnt-out wreckage of the airliner.

It was the first evidence that anyone in the crew might have had doubts about whether the takeoff was cleared.

One source said the question was answered with a Dutch-accented *Yah*, but another said the answer was unintelligible. In any case, the Dutch airliner continued its takeoff. The last words recorded in the KLM cockpit, the sources revealed, were: "God damn."

The crash happened at Tenerife on March 27. A total of 577 people were killed. New York Times News Service.







## OVERSEAS

## Calm before anniversary of civil war in Lebanon

From Our Own Correspondent Beirut, April 12

Syria's apparent decision to freeze both left and right-wing military activity in southern Lebanon, aided by a call for a ceasefire from Mr Yassir Arafat of the Palestine Liberation Organization—brought a second day of relative peace to the hilly countryside 10 miles from the Israeli border.

Only a few artillery exchanges were recorded during the night between Palestinian and Phalangist forces near the Christian-held town of Marjayoun.

On Thursday, Mr Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist leader, is to travel to Damascus for talks with President Assad, who is expected to make it clear to him that the Syrians will no longer tolerate Lebanese Christian attacks south of the Litani River.

It was Syrian military support for the Palestinian guerrillas in the area last week that enabled the Palestinian forces to capture the villages of Taybeh and Khiam.

Last Friday, Colonel Muhammad al-Kholi, the Syrian delegate to the four-nation Arab League ceasefire committee, told Christian Maronite leaders that the Lebanese ceasefire must be imposed across the whole country, including the border area with Israel.

The second anniversary of the Lebanese civil war, which claimed almost 40,000 lives, falls tomorrow: a date which has not been marked since the conflict started with Christian ambush of a busload of Palestinians in a Beirut suburb—there has been scarcely a month in which every part of Lebanon has been at peace.

There are signs that Syria has become slightly unnerved by recent political events in Israel, where Mr Shimon Peres's accession to the leadership of the Labour Party has now temporarily superseded the forthcoming Israeli elections as a focus of Arab interest.

Al-Baath, the Syrian Baath Party newspaper in Damascus, announced in an editorial that "hawks are back in the driver's seat" in Israel now that Mr Peres has taken over. Syrian and Jordanian ministers talk of the possibilities that Israel will start a war in order to avoid making territorial concessions on the West Bank, but—at this stage at least—their reported fears should not be taken as a sign that the two governments want to appear quite as moderate as President Sadat of Egypt for fear that their tolerance will be interpreted as political cowardice.

## 'Roots' named as best TV show in US

Los Angeles, April 12—A

six-part dramatization of Alex Haley's book *Roots* was named last night as American television's best show by the Television Critics' Circle.

The series, about the origins of slavery in America, won a total of five awards for individual and programme achievement. Its final instalment was watched by more viewers than any other single programme shown on American television.

The book has also won a special citation of merit from the National Book Award Committee. It said the best-selling work did not fit into its history category.

The decision, announced yesterday, was made before a Sunday Times article challenged the historical accuracy of *Roots*.

The committee said that the book transcended the historical and other categories and possessed "distinguished literary qualities".—Reuters and AP.

## Albanian exile leaves Bangkok

Bangkok, April 12—Mr

Mirvet Shqipervere Leka, the Albanian pretender, left Bangkok early today for Amman, six days after the Thai authorities had dropped charges against him of illegal possession of arms.

Source said that the authorities recognized his claim to diplomatic immunity.

## You don't know Arabia and the Gulf...

**Arabia and the Gulf**

until you've read it.

The first authoritative weekly review devoted entirely to Middle Eastern political and economic affairs, uncoloured by political or national affiliations.

Available by subscription only. Complete and post the coupon now and take advantage of the special launch subscription offer.

To Arabia and the Gulf, Portico Publications (UK) Ltd, FREEPOST, 84 Fetter Lane, London EC4B 4QE

Please send me a subscription application form for Arabia and the Gulf, detailing the special launch offer.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Silos are appearing near Amman to receive batteries of Hawk missiles from America

## Arms that could cost Jordan dear

From Robert Fisk Amman, April 12

About September this year, King Hussein of Jordan will at last receive his 14 batteries of Hawk and aircraft missiles, worth about £290m, from the United States.

Work is already under way on the Hawk silos in the desert outside Amman. By the end of the year the Royal Jordanian Army will have 84 missiles in its armoury and Jordanian officers are due to complete their first Hawk missile training course in America this summer.

The King did undertake a temporary filtration with Soviet arms suppliers last year when the Saudis initially refused to foot an increased bill for the Hawks, but to the relief of the Western powers (and of the Jordanian Army) his brief glance towards the Russian missile factories came to nothing.

The new American weapons, however, could yet present Jordan with some critical political problems, raised not by disarmament-conscious United States nor by a suspicious Israeli enemy, but by Jordan's neighbour and military ally, Syria.

Last year, when it looked as though the King might put his money on the Soviet Sam air defence system, there was much talk in Amman and Damascus about the need for further military unity. Syrian Sam anti-aircraft missiles could be linked to the Jordanian air defences, so the theory ran, and both countries could react jointly to any Israeli air attack.

## Mr Dayan rejects Likud appeals

From Moshe Brilliant Tel Aviv, April 12

The opposition Likud party, which is now enjoying its best prospect of beating the Labour Party in the May parliamentary election, failed early today to entice Mr Moshe Dayan, the former Defence Minister, to quit the ruling party and stand as a Likud candidate.

Mr Dayan and Mr Ezer Weizman, a Likud member, conferred until the early hours in Mr Dayan's home here after it was announced that Labour was nominating Mr Dayan for another term in the Knesset. The former minister has been critical of Labour's call for territorial compromise with Jordan and restrictions on

Jordanian and Syrian officers spoke of the possibility of an integrated air defence operations centre.

No one has suggested that the two armies do not take their cooperation seriously. In the past six months, 14 Syrian Army officers have arrived for military courses in Jordan and four of them are at present serving in the Jordanian Army Staff College.

The Syrian Chief of Staff regularly visits his opposite number in Amman and the Jordanian army commander, who fought with the Syrians on the Golan Heights in the 1973 Arab-Israeli war—have a high opinion of the fighting skill of Syrian troops.

But the Jordanians are also aware of the differences between their two armies. The Syrians use almost exclusively Soviet weapons, while the Jordanians have purchased most of their equipment from America and Britain.

President Assad and King Hussein are friends—in 1970 President Assad, the then Air Force Commander, refused to provide Syrian troops with air cover when they entered Jordan to help the Palestinian guerrillas.

Nevertheless, such friendships cannot change an army's identity. Apart from the missile recruits, 300 Jordanian officers are studying in the United States and 40 in Britain; others attend the military academy in Taiwan.

This Western training has prompted some Jordanian officers to regard the Syrians as a more unwieldy army. They believe, too, that the two

nations have different defence priorities.

Syrian Sam missiles at present defend military units and divisional headquarters rather than static targets or towns. Jordanian Hawk missiles will be sited to defend both military positions and Amman.

Even if the two systems could be linked, Jordanian officers suspect there might be little time to discuss tactics if war broke out.

As a diplomatic source put it: "When you talk about a joint command between Jordan and Syria, you have to remember that Amman and Damascus are only three minutes flying time from Israeli airfields."

The Jordanians have another important reason for disliking the idea of a Jordan-Syrian air defence command. Some Jordanian officers apparently believe that Syria is not as politically stable as King Hussein's regime.

They realize that Syrian officers are more politically motivated than their Jordanian counterparts. And if President Assad should one day fall, the Jordanians do not want the wrong man reading Jordan's military secrets off a lighted screen.

Amman, April 12—King Hussein will fly to Washington for talks with President Carter on April 25, it was announced here today.—Reuters.

Owen visit: Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, is to visit Egypt from April 24 to 26 and Syria from April 26 to 27, the Foreign Office announced yesterday (our Diplomatic Correspondent's report).

He is expected to go to Israel later, probably in July.

with Likud leaders. Mr Ben Porat, who was with Mr Dayan at the meeting, said he could not join the Likud because he opposed annexation and he will stand for election as an independent.

Meanwhile, Mr Zadok, the Minister of Justice, has acknowledged that the ruling by the Attorney General that Mr Rabin, the Prime Minister, who has resigned the leadership of his party, must remain in office until a new Cabinet is formed after the election should be reviewed. He said he would appoint a committee of constitutional experts to see whether the law should be amended, but there would not be enough time for any amendments to affect the present case.

## In brief

## Reasons for 425 kidnaps sought

Buenos Aires, April 12—The relatives of several kidnapped Argentines have asked the Supreme Court to investigate the recent disappearance of 425 people, including journalists, lawyers, union leaders, students, churchmen, writers, artists and intellectuals.

Armed men claiming to be security agents are reported to have arrested them.

## \$5,000 stitches

Marion, Alabama, April 12—A white doctor, Dr Bobby Merkle, who removed fresh stitches from the injured arm of a black youth when the boy could not pay his \$25 (£15) fee, was ordered to pay \$5,000 damages by a jury of seven whites and five blacks.

## Cairo charges

Cairo, April 12—Two hundred and ninety-seven people, 110 of them under 18 years of age, were today charged with sabotage and damaging public property during last January's riots over food price increases. Charges against 953 more are being prepared.

## Seamen's grouse

Tel Aviv, April 12—The Israeli merchant seamen union began an indefinite strike for higher wages today. The 30 per cent rise recently promised marine officers was more than their own 20 per cent award in January, they complained.

## Bombers own up

New York, April 12—The Puerto Rican extremist group FALN, National Liberation Armed Forces, has claimed responsibility for fire bomb explosions last Saturday in three New York shops.

## Car as coffin

Los Angeles, April 12—A judge ruled that Mrs Sandra West, aged 37, a Texas millionaire who died last month may be buried in a lac nightgown and her favourite Ferrari car, in accordance with her last wish.

## Police strike goes on

Quebec, April 12—A strike by 4,200 Quebec provincial police, demanding two men on duty in each patrol car after a lone policeman was killed last week, went into its sixth day.

## Baseball diplomacy

New York, April 12—An invitation from Dr Castro, the Cuban head of state, for a team of American baseball stars to visit Cuba will probably be accepted.

## Flood flight

Nairobi, April 12—About 18,000 people have been driven from their homes by floods in low-lying areas of western Kenya, round Lake Victoria.

Jewish settlement in occupied areas. Likud source said Mr Dayan was not to cross over to the West Bank of the Jordan to mean the area would not be annexed as long as peace talks with the Arabs were not exhausted.

The party's present view is that Israeli sovereignty should extend from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River and the Likud representatives told Mr Dayan that annexation does not have to be immediate, but they could not accept Mr Dayan's formula.

Mr Dayan refused to discuss details of the talks, but said he failed to find common ground

## Soviet-Japanese fish talks break down in Moscow

From Peter Hazelhurst Tokyo, April 12

Japan's latest attempts to negotiate a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union in a new round of talks in Moscow have broken down over a long-standing territorial dispute between the two countries.

The deadlock, which has forced about 7,000 Japanese fishing vessels to abandon their traditional trawling grounds within the Soviet Union's new 200-mile coastal zone for 12 days, relates to Japan's claims to four northern islands in the Kurile chain that were occupied by Russian troops after the Second World War.

According to the Japanese Foreign Ministry, Moscow is adamant that the new fishing agreement must recognize the Soviet Union's jurisdiction

over coastal waters round the four islands, a move that would force Japan to waive its claims to the disputed territory.

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Japanese Prime Minister, assured Parliament this week that his Government would refuse to recognize an interim fishing agreement that prejudiced Japan's claims to the four islands north of Hokkaido.

Moscow: Mr Alexander Ishkov, the Soviet Fishing Minister, blamed Japan for the breakdown of the talks. "Unfortunately, the Japanese side began ignoring completely the rights of the Soviet Union to determine the organization of fishing in its coastal region and cast doubt on our sovereign right over the relevant fish resources," he said. Talks were continuing.—AP.

## 'Moon children' win appeal

San Francisco, April 12—A state court of appeals has freed five young adult followers of the Rev Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church from the custody of their parents.

The three judges stayed a March 24 order by a superior court judge that had made the parents conservators of their children. The earlier decision was based on an 11-day public hearing that revolved around the issue of whether the young adults had been "brainwashed"

by the Unification Church and should be "deprogrammed" from that religion. The appeal judges ruled that the five, all in their twenties, were free to go wherever they wished and to associate with whom they liked.

The court indicated, in a unanimous decision, that it did not agree with the earlier ruling that parents retained certain rights over their children even after those children became adults.—New York Times News Service.

## Nigerian attack on BBC Gowon talk

Lagos, April 12—Nigeria is giving aid to Britain, an official Nigerian newspaper said today in a leading article attacking a recent BBC programme on General Yakubu Gowon, the exiled Nigerian leader, and Mr Enaka Odu-megwu Ojukwu, the exiled Biafran leader.

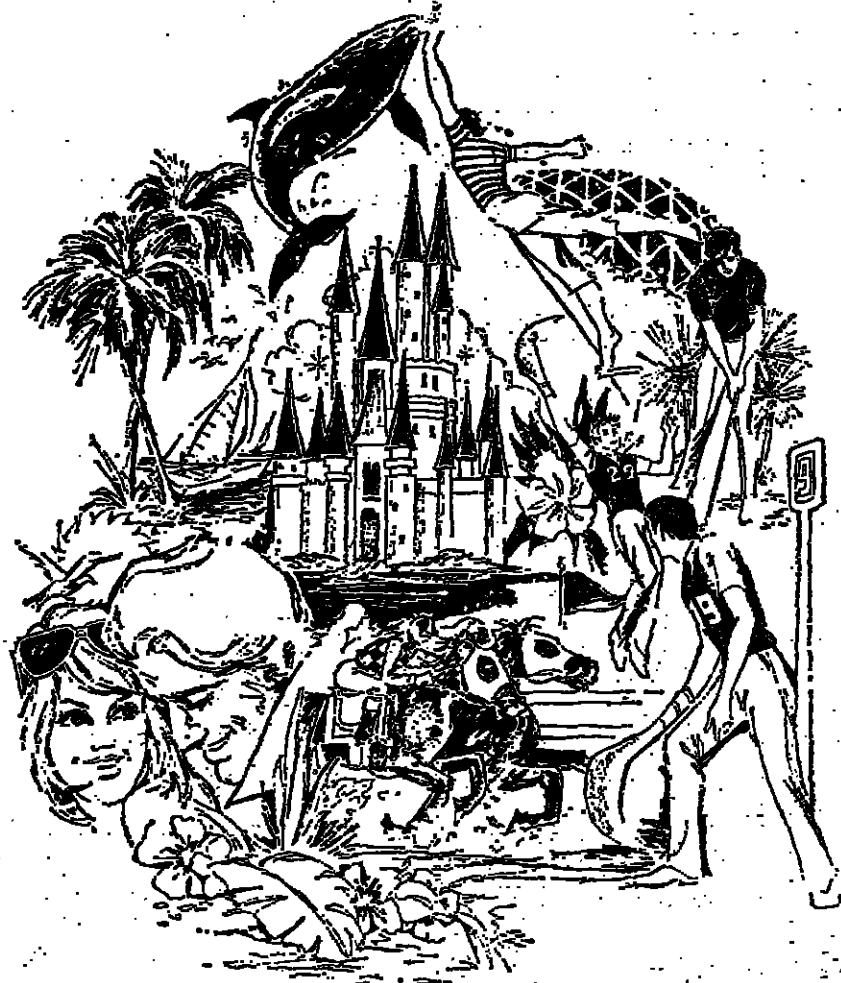
Warning Britain of the consequences of hostile propaganda against Nigeria, the *Badan Daily Sketch*, owned by the Western State Government, said that the programme was part of a "carefully orchestrated strategy by the British mass media to shake the confidence of Nigerians in their Government and leaders."

It added: "For those who may not know, Nigeria's oil money is part of the United Nations-sponsored oil facility fund from which Britain draws heavily to shore up its ailing economy over which its managers have lost control. In other words, Nigeria is now an aid-giver to Britain."

## Women explorers safe

Bogotá, April 12—Six British women explorers today emerged safely from a two-month trek through unexplored jungle and swamp in north-west Colombia.

سكنا من الاحول



When you're looking forward to a glorious holiday look to FLORIDA where glorious holidays begin.

**FLORIDA**  
THE PLACE TO BE

Your travel agents can make the difference between a good holiday and a really great one. Consult them.

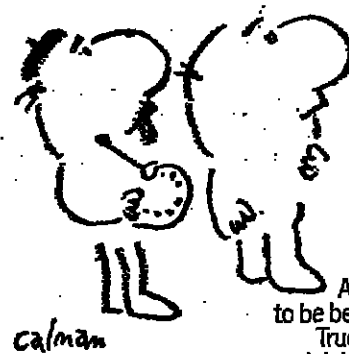
FLORIDA DIVISION OF TOURISM  
Collins Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32304 U.S.A.

Please send me your FREE Visitor Information Guide giving me complete information on where to go and what to see in FLORIDA.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

**EATON**

But is it commercial?



A hard fact of life is that you don't have to be beautiful to be commercial. True, the beautiful things are acclaimed—and rightly so.

But the fact remains that someone has to be concerned with the gritty end of life.

Someone like Eaton. Eaton in Britain is part of the £1000 million worldwide Eaton Corporation headquartered in the United States. A company that has been active in Britain since the early years of the century.

And today it has manufacturing plants in nine different locations as widespread as Basingstoke and Livingston, employing over 4,500 people.

Turnover in the U.K. last year exceeded £65 million.

The balance of payments, meanwhile, annually benefits to the tune of some £10 million.

Impressive statistics you might say, but

what does Eaton actually make? Eaton axles and gearboxes for Britain's commercial vehicles 'Yale' locks and a host of allied security products. Eaton industrial clutches and brakes. A range of Yale fork lift trucks and hoists.

Not very glamorous products perhaps, but extremely vital ones.

And in this day and age, they're the ones that count.

If you'd like to know more about Eaton please write to Audrey Green and she'll send you the booklet 'Eaton in Britain'.

EATON LIMITED.  
Eaton House, Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.  
Tel: 01-572 7313.  
Telex: 27798.









## Racing

**By Michael Phillips**  
**Racing Correspondent**

## Newmarket programme

(5.41) LADSBOE RACING TOTS DO  
HANDICAP (\$1.953: 1.5m) \$65.60 T  
offers Blush, ch f. by King's Cavaliers Bl

---



By Michael Seely      tested fairly

From John Hennessy                      the ninth will provide a better











Bernard Levin

# At least Spain now has the chance to reject a different form of dictatorship

*Ex Iberia semper aliquid novi.* Not so long ago that strange, square peninsula was the most stable political area on earth, its two governments headed by the two longest-surviving of the world's dictators; one of them had held power for nearly 40 years, the other for even longer. Indeed, beside Salazar and Franco, Tito was a minor dictator and Mao an upstart. Hitler himself, on their scale, had come and gone in an eye-blink, and even Stalin's rule had lacked endurance.

What is more, although it was generally recognized that rule as personal as that of the two Iberian dictators must inevitably lead, on their death, to a period of considerable danger (at the very least) for their two countries, the implications were scarcely faced elsewhere; it seemed almost as though the expert analysts had become hypnotized into a subconscious belief in the immortality of the Spanish and Portuguese tyrants, a belief desperately and tenaciously held by the dictators themselves, driven to it as they were by their own fear of death, itself demonstrated in their obsessive refusal to hand over to even the most trustworthy successor.

This fear throws an interesting light on the minds of those who wield absolute temporal power. The very same reluctance to face the inevitable, with exactly the same consequences, can be seen today in Yugoslavia; even the commentators have the sense to speculate on what will follow Tito's death as no practical possibility, because the question is never going to arise. Tito, like Franco, has had to convince himself that his own inevitable death may somehow be postponed if he continues to behave as though it will never happen. (Considering the physical courage undeniably possessed by both of them, this *timor mortis* can hardly be explained in other than the pathological terms of the man who is not normally careful to avoid. But the conclusion is surely obvious: Franco and Tito, with their striking similarities of character and regime, both long ago realized in their hearts that their political systems were



The great dictators: Hitler, Stalin, Tito, Mao and (below) the most enduring of them all, Salazar and Franco.

built upon sand because they ignored the deepest truths of human reality, and since their own deaths thus came to symbolize the impermanence of their political philosophies, they were obliged to shut out the possibility from their minds.

The Thousand Year Reich lasted for twelve; the Portuguese dictatorship, believed impervious to earthquakes, was swept away in a single day; and now Spain — Spain! — moves step by step towards democracy, where hardly more than a year ago the flag of Franco's rule still flew without a single rent in its fabric.

Step by step indeed; no student of politics, let alone history, can fail to rub his eyes in wonder at the news that Franco's own political organization, through which he had wielded such absolute and unquestioned power, has now been dissolved. The suppression of the *Movimiento* must have come, to Spaniards, as would have the abolition of the *caudillo*; nothing could have better demonstrated the determination of the King and the provisional government to fulfil their promise to move Spain towards true political freedom.

But even more astonishing action was to follow: it was announced at the weekend that the Communist Party of Spain was to be legalized, and permitted to contest the forthcoming elections. The Government had clearly (and understandably) come with considerable



reluctance to this decision; at first, in a subtly Wilsonian evasion of responsibility, they asked the Supreme Court to rule on the question. The Supreme Court, however, which was no more eager than most people (I except Socrates) to drink a poisoned chalice, ruled firmly that it had nothing to do with them, but was purely political matter. The Government pondered... a week, then nervously themselves for the decision.

Little guidance was available from precedent. Such questions did not arise — they had no time in Portugal; in the superlatively comparable Federal Germany, which banned all totalitarian parties, Nazi and Communist alike, the origins and position of the new state meant that its problems were unique. Spain was on her own. We can dismiss the argument

that the Government's promise of freedom for Spain would have been shown up as mere deceit if the Communist Party had remained banned. For a democratic country to suppress a totalitarian organization, except in times of crisis as grave as war, would certainly weaken the democratic fabric itself. For a state which has not known anything like true liberty — though of course Spain has long had a degree of freedom far greater than that of any Communist country — for over a third of a century, and is moving away from totalitarian rule, the legalization of a party pledged to impose a totalitarianism of its own presents a dilemma of a different order altogether. (It will be surmised from the way I put it that I am less than wholly convinced of the genuineness of the Spanish Communist Party's

conversion to democracy. Such a surmise would be correct.) And yet the risk surely had to be taken. Not because a refusal to take it would have displeased the Spanish Communist Party, nor because that organization speaks for a considerable number of Spaniards. Nor was the risk justified on mere balance — of — disadvantage grounds, though probably the campaign of subversion and even violence likely to follow a refusal might well have been more damaging to Spain than open Communist political activity, including proselytizing and participation in the elections.

For what would have been implied by the choice of the alternative? Obviously, but this is not very important — that the present rulers of Spain fear for the success of their slow march to democracy. Well they might: it is not only the threat from a legal Communist Party that they must fear, but a reaction from the embittered Francoists who see their power vanishing, and are tempted to try to seize it back before it is too late. But there is something deeper.

The argument that underlies the fear of the ban on the Communist Party is one which implicitly rests on the unfittness of Spaniards to sample the wine of democracy without dilution. Ironically, it was the argument used for years in countries like Britain by the followers of Franco, and it is exactly parallel to the one used by the defenders of Mr Vorster, the

apologists for communist states, and the supporters of black dictatorship in Africa.

Democracy, we are told, is "not suitable" for... fill in the taste. The Russians have never known democracy and besides, their temperament is such that they wouldn't even want it. The Chinese are even more remarkable people — they actively despise and indignantly reject (all eight hundred million of them) such disgusting notions as free elections and a multiplicity of published opinions. In South Africa, of course, the black population, charming in its way, is utterly childlike, by no means ready for even a limited say in its own life. As for Africans in one-party Tanzania, one-party Angola, one-party Mozambique, one-party Ethiopia, one-party — well almost every black-ruled African state — they have the same quality; they are so astonishingly sophisticated and mature that they realize how unimportant are the forms of democracy, which can safely be left to the effete Europeans while they prosper and advance under the autocratic rule of their black bosses.

And so the Spaniards, emerging from the long twilight of Franco's rule, must first be taught to cherish freedom, lest they cast it away without realizing its value. I do not believe it. I believe the Spaniards, like those of East Germany and Iran, Rhodesia and Cuba, Libya and Vietnam, Tibet and Argentina, are capable of forming their own sound judgments on a range of political choices, if never so wide; even if it is so wide that it includes totalitarianism of both left and right. The Portuguese people very nearly fell into the grip of Communism; but when, in the nick of time, they were given the opportunity to vote for or against the Communists, they voted overwhelmingly against.

The situation in Spain is considerably more propitious than it was next door, and I do not believe that the Spanish people will choose differently. I am glad that they now have the chance to demonstrate as much.

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1977

## Why the opium poppy may bloom and strawberry beds lie fallow

There are strawberries growing in northern Thailand and two West German policemen on duty in Afghanistan. The connection is opium because the strawberries were planted as a substitute crop for the opium poppy and the policemen are advising the Afghans on better control of the drug.

However, there are now fears that there may soon be little money for future strawberry crops or peripatetic policemen. The two projects were financed from the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control but this conduit for international cooperation against drug abuse is facing financial crisis.

The latest report of the International Narcotics Control Board warned: "There is a grave danger that multilateral assistance will be curtailed if international bodies and in particular the Fund fail to obtain essential resources from a growing number of donors; this would be a severe blow to international narcotics control." The blow could come later this month on Capitol Hill in Washington if a number of congressmen fulfil their threats to cut back American contributions to the fund.

The way they see it the Americans have been picking up the bill benefiting other countries who also have drug abuse problems, but are reluctant to dig into their pockets. On a recent tour of Europe the congressmen castigated a number of countries for their paltry contributions.

There is no doubt the United States has been far and away the biggest contributor. Between the fund's foundation in 1971 and 1975 the Americans gave \$15m out of a total of \$19m in either contributions or promises. The next largest contributor was Canada with \$5.8m, while the United Kingdom was some way down the list with \$355,000.

Given the size of the American drug problem — last year President Ford estimated there were 5,000 Americans dying

annually from drug abuse — it is not surprising there has been a large commitment. It is even less surprising when one considers the creation of the fund because the current figure about its cost shows the Americans hoist by their own petard.

The fund originated with the Nixon administration in Washington and not the UN building in New York. President Nixon and his advisers wanted to get at the roots of the drug problem but they found a number of key countries in the Third World were loath to accept funds and diplomatically embarrass themselves. The fund became the vehicle for American dollars.

Since then it has become a major instrument in a policy of fighting drug abuse on an international level. The fund has achieved important work in setting up crop substitution schemes in a number of countries. In Turkey an American-inspired ban on the opium poppy crop failed but the fund was used to set up successful controls for a legal crop to supply the world's needs for codeine.

But it has also received abuse for promoting projects of dubious value with too few controls on expenditure. Its critics point, for example, to its work for organizing drug abuse statistics for countries with few statistical facilities. The end result was too sophisticated for most developed countries to manage. The problems of accountability and budgeting control at an international level have been a major subject of debate for the past two years and have not helped attempts to spread the financial load.

But most countries have had to plead economic restraint. The trouble is that any saving now may prove to be very expensive in the long run. In 1971 Western Europe could smugly plead that serious drug abuse was largely an American problem. In 1977 that is no longer the case.

Stewart Tendler

## Czechs: still in the grip of the graveyard

Why is Czechoslovakia, after eight years of "consolidation" still waiting in vain for more liberal policies? Why has every attempt by the opposition to launch a dialogue with the ruling circles ended in an escalation of police terror, accompanied by a hate-filled smear campaign? Why is the regime so touchy when accused of failing to give its citizens basic human and civil rights? Why has its reaction to Charter 77 been based on the same old recipe: intensive police action combined with a propaganda campaign in the mass media reminiscent of Goebbels, Saragat, and the atmosphere of the fifteenth with their political show trials?

In 1968 Czechoslovakia attempted to introduce profound structural reforms. This process was violently interrupted by the Soviet invasion in August. Thus the nation founded the attempt to rescue the nation from the spiritual consequences of two decades of totalitarian rule and a system imposed on the country from abroad, which was in keeping with the requirements of the traditions of Czechoslovakia.

The profound crisis that gave rise to the Prague Spring has not been resolved. Czechoslovak society remains sick. The country was crippled by the political, economic and legal reforms scrapped and condemned and those who supported them turned into outcasts in the Czechoslovak version of apartheid. Free speech and the expression of public opinion have been suppressed, education forced into the straitjacket of conformity.

The people who today rule Czechoslovakia have tried to impose the "calm and order" of the graveyard, putting the

clock back 10 or 20 years to the very situation which gave rise to the political crisis of the sixties and to the Prague Spring, which was its result. By doing so they have paralysed society and jeopardised its future politically, economically and morally.

This ruling class has driven society into a blind alley. Their sole aim is to stay in power as long as possible and to maintain the status quo at all cost. In this situation, the question of human and civil rights has become crucial. The very survival of the system depends on their suppression. The regime feels (indeed is) in mortal danger if it admits that the citizens of Czechoslovakia have, for instance, the right freely to express their opinions, and to assemble and organize. It is in mortal danger once it loses the ability to enforce obedience by the threat of loss of employment, of barring entry to secondary school and university for the children of numerous citizens, and the many other means it resorts to for this purpose.

That is why even the slightest attempt at voicing an opinion at variance with the party's monopoly of "truth" — a collection of poems, a novel, a pop song, a leaflet informing people of their rights in an election, a letter from a group of relatives demanding the release of political prisoners, a petition such as Charter 77 — literally touches the central nervous system of the totalitarian regime. That is why every expression of civil or spiritual freedom acquires the guise of an act of opposition even when its originators have no such intention, as in the case of Charter 77. That is why the regime's response to a demand that it should respect human

and civil rights can only be yet more infringements of those rights.

If what the Prague propaganda machine said in January was really so, if this were just a case of a small group of people trying to defend their own narrow interests, there would be little to get excited about. Injustices and wrongs can be sorted out and soiled in Czechoslovakia it is the whole of society that suffers, and it is its very future that is at stake.

Czechoslovak society as a whole rejected the totalitarian regime in 1968, demanding a reformed, democratic, pluralistic system. The ruling class had to resort to a massive application of power to suppress this movement: in the years that followed it succeeded in enforcing or buying the obedience of some, inducing apathy in others, and securing many among the rest of hope. These methods of manipulation have, however, turned against the rulers, who realize that they lack the support of the population. They are afraid of the silent majority, and they are afraid of the political and consumer-minded majority might do if granted fundamental human and civil rights.

This majority is the submerged, larger part of the iceberg. They have grumbled, they have protested, they have elected the ministry of officially proclaimed lies and hypocrites in order to lead a comfortable life, but also because they can see no other way out. Afraid to lose the little they have, they turn up at show elections, attend May Day parades, put out Soviet flags, and some even sign statements condemning Charter 77 without so much as having read it. But in private they grumble and listen to foreign radio

stations to find out what is going on abroad as well as in their own country. In their subconscious there is a growing anger and hatred directed at those who humiliate them and at themselves for allowing themselves to be humiliated and corrupted. This is the explosive charge waiting for the next acute outburst of crisis.

The tip of this iceberg are the people willing to take the risk of saying "no". They are neither political fanatics, nor are they all intellectuals. They share an awareness of their human and civil responsibility. They act on the strength of their conviction that what they do is in harmony with the true feelings of that silent majority, that they express its sentiments until, as in 1968, public opinion makes itself heard again.

The millions of people who in 1968 expressed their desire to live as free human beings, who in August, 1968, protested against the Soviet occupation, who in their hundreds of thousands marched through the streets in January, 1969, to honour the memory of Jan Palach; the crowds whose childish joy at Czechoslovakia's ice hockey victory over the USSR gave expression to their political sentiments; they have not been pacified by a time.

The present rulers of Czechoslovakia are convinced that if they succeed in silencing the formerly politically active section of the population and the two generations of intellectuals who in the sixties formulated and tried to implement the programme of democratization, and if at the same time, they manage to indoctrinate,

corrupt and manipulate the young and cut them off from sources of information, they will have triumphed for the next 20 or more years. They believe that if they can cut Czechoslovakia off from the rest of the world, from European culture and its spiritual heritage, they will build a monster which will become impossible to bridge.

Charter 77 derived from a conviction that the struggle for human and civil rights had to be fought out at home, inside Czechoslovakia, and that no nation could expect freedom through outside intervention. At the same time supporters of the Charter are aware that their struggle is in keeping with the spirit of détente and international conventions, especially the Final Act of the Helsinki conference. This made certain aspects of the internal systems of the signatory states a matter for international attention. It can succeed only if the Czechs and Slovaks lend their support to those in Czechoslovakia who do not want their country to remain an ice-land of oppression and lack of freedom in the heart of Europe.

### Vilem Precan

Dr Precan, born in 1933, is a Czech historian. He was one of the authors of the Black Book which documented the Soviet-led invasion of 1968 and its immediate aftermath. He was dismissed from the Historical Institute in Prague in 1970 and legal proceedings were started against him the following year when the Black Book was declared subversive. In 1975 he appealed to the World Congress of Historians in San Francisco. In July, 1976, he was allowed to emigrate to West Germany, where he now lives.

## Britons in a tight spot



The Tyler family: unorthodox procedures.

people out, even though they may merely have acted foolishly or carelessly, rather than with criminal intent. As the little pamphlet entitled "Essential Information" for holders of United Kingdom passports remarks, "Hobbies like aircraft, train or ship spotting, and even bird watching, are liable to misinterpretation and may lead to your being arrested for spying."

The temptation, when British citizens languish abroad, is to thump on the table, summon the ambassador of the country concerned to the Foreign Office, and fire off a strong protest. This seldom pays. It is not so much that a British passport does not command quite the respect it may have done in the old days, rather that new countries have their own traditions and their own sensitivities. In the case of the Tyler family, seized by a guerrilla group in the wilds of Ethiopia, it took months of what the Foreign Office calls unorthodox procedures, behind the scenes, to secure their safe release.

The consular department comes into the review of foreign

representation which the Central Policy Review Staff is now completing. It seems to be of the opinion that rather too much help is given to people who get into trouble by their own fault. People expect expert assistance from the government, perhaps more than other countries provide. The consul is not a secret agent, still less a "soft touch". He is there to help people who have no one else to turn to.

There are 47 consular staff at home and 317 abroad, plus 958 locally engaged staff. Their efforts clearly have to be spread very thin, considering that last year British people spent 146,000,000 days abroad. The number of places where consular assistance is provided can be reduced, perhaps, but that will not reduce the calls. On the contrary, it will mean more work for the other consuls. Certainly if the service is cut, as a result of the Think Tank's recommendations, travellers must realize that they will get less help.

David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

## The Times Diary

### Trying to lift the frog curse

Last time Robin Young wrote about TA, or transactional analysis, he suggested that it was just a fancy name for people being nice to one another. It is a system of psychotherapy which encourages practitioners to give "strokes" or emotional rewards, like a kind word or a nice smile, to get desired responses.

Now a centre has been set up in London for the TA Festival which was held there. It was led by two Americans who "have done much to spread Transactional Analysis and innovative psychotherapeutic attitudes and techniques."

Young joined the 30 or so participants who paid £2 to attend the inaugural evening session, engagingly entitled The Frog Curse. He reports: "As we took our seats we were welcomed by a 'training associate' who pinned on each of us a lapel badge depicting a large green frog, to which she added our first names as they were about to hear how we

could be transmuted from the mainly awkward frogs we had become in life into the beautiful princes and princesses we would wish to be in our favourite dreams or fairy stories."

Larry Mart, a cheery man wearing an open-necked shirt, a necklace and turned-back cuffs, was a collaborator of the late Eric Berne, author of *Games People Play*, and originator of TA. He and his colleague, Gayle Palmer, a woman of carefully cosmetic appearance, swung into their presentation at breathtaking speed, announcing that they would quickly tell just from looking at a person how his or her parents had come to conceive. They shocked us even more by saying they wanted us to act out the various scenarios they described.

Mart called for a volunteer to have his manner of conception and personal attitude to sex analysed on sight. I stood in a corner and was quickly told that when my parents conceived me one was acting in deception and the other from

resignation. Resignation, I am sorry to say, showed most in me.

A woman called Pat refused to play these sort of games. "I really don't want to," she protested. She was thus labelled un-OK in the parlance of the technique.

"We believe," explained Mart, adding as an aside that this was where they parted company from the Judaeo-Christian ethic and Sigmund Freud, "that everyone is born an OK person. But then they are scripted and programmed so that they are forced to be a certain way. When they are locked in their scripts we say they are frogs in the frog pond."

The definitive programming, we learnt, was in our "polywog" years, from nought to six. Mart and Palmer talked confidently about the effects of different manners of breastfeeding and potty-training, which we were called upon to act out.

Finally we were told that if we regularly slept eight hours a night, and "spaced out" our days with trying to keep busy, eating well and drinking rather a lot then we had a problem. We were "undernourished", getting too little of our favourite currency values, deprived of which we might become suicidal.

There would be more revelations, we were promised, at a

sex and intimacy workshop later in the week, price £15. We could also learn to nurture ourselves, if we were sleeping and eating too well, in treatment groups at £4 each per evening, a mind and body workshop, or 24-hour experiential marathon at £30. We should emerge as OK Princes and Princesses, the Frog Curse lifted.

### Kids' stuff

A poster depicting an onion fetched £140 at Phillips yesterday, while a matching picture of a tomato went for £130. Fine art experts regarded the prices as good, an accurate reflection of the current cost of vegetables. The prices also gave an indication of current levels of pocket money, which seems to be escaping the social contract.

The auction, of 312 lots of stamps and cards donated by viewers of the children's television programme *Blue Peter*, raised a commendable £18,193.60p for the programme's "Lifetime Lebanon" appeal, which will go to provide medical aid and rehabilitation for young victims of the civil war there. Viewers have already provided a medical team and supplies to help children injured and made homeless by the fighting. Undoubtedly the best bargain in the children's section

of the sale went to a young man called Adam who, in spite of his father's efforts to wear him down, picked up a prized set of old Eagle Annuals, donated by the children's television presenter John Craven, for £420.

In the more serious section, dealers showed a lot of interest in the huge assorted collection of postcards. The highest price of the day, £280, was paid for a bundle of 2,000 cards including a number by Donald McGill, the master of the rude seaside card. Another dealer paid £75 for a single card. Ronnie Barker, an avid postcard buff, donated an album from his personal collection, which made £50.

The young bidders who had sat patiently under the hot television lights for two hours were rewarded with Easter eggs, a small token of the auctioneers' esteem for their saving the onion and tomato cards for the nation.

### Joker

Spiff Milligan opened Puffin books' exhibition for children at the Mall Galleries yesterday, and proved so popular that any jokes he may have made were inaudible at the back of an admiring throng of parents and children. The children's own jokes, however, were on display for all to see, chalked up among the exhibits.

We have found the ideal prospective candidate, gentlemen: Ston, Balliol, Fellingby.



The children visiting the exhibition at any rate seemed to read each other's jokes more avidly than they did the short stories and essays which had won prizes in their competitions.

### Cheesed off

The head of an international trading company has written to tell me of the dreadful time he and three others (two of them Americans) had at the restaurant of the Carlton Tower Hotel in London one recent Sunday. The food, he alleges, was badly cooked, the portions stingy and "the service more akin to a railway café."

I get such letters from time to time and do not often follow them up. Some restaurants are terrible all the time and others have off days with varying frequency. Since I have not eaten at the Carlton Tower for several years, I am unsure into which of those categories it fits. But what intrigued me about this plaintiff's letter was the prices he quoted. For two first courses, four main courses, two scoops of ice cream, four coffees and a bottle of rosé wine, plus 12s per cent service, the bill came to £40.

And a single cheeseburger was a breathtaking £4.

When I checked with the hotel they said he had underpriced it. Their cheeseburgers are £4.25. The spokeswoman explained that they contained 12oz of best ground sirloin, 2oz of cheese, plus fried onions, tomato and coleslaw (but not chips, which are 75p extra).

It was true, she admitted, that a cheeseburger at a hamburger joint would cost much less. "But what you're paying for is being in the Rib Room, one of the best restaurants in London. We use best quality meat and some people say there's just too much for one person to eat."

Which shows how people's views can differ: for the reader described the portions as "minuscule", the meal as a "sheer disgrace" and fumed: "An apology will not suffice."

Asked a short time ago if a reporter from this newspaper could sit in on a couple of its games, the Council duly met in full session and turned us down. "It would," they said, "create a precedent: everyone would want to do it." So the public will have to remain in ignorance about how decisions are taken on where £41.7m of its money is spent.

PHS





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## THE OFFICE OF DPP

The office of Director of Public Prosecutions was created less than a century ago, in 1879. Its early years were bedevilled by controversy, much of it stemming from the personalities and policies of some of the less happy appointments to it. More recently, criticism of the DPP has centred on specific decisions he has taken, both to prosecute or to refrain from doing so, whether in individual cases or, more generally, in a particular area of the criminal law. There is no longer any respectable body of opinion which believes that the holder of the office shows partiality or unfairness to particular people, groups or classes. The retiring holder of the office, Sir Norman Skelhorn, has been completely free from any such allegations. To suggest, therefore, as Sir Peter Rawlinson has done, that with the appointment of a new DPP it would be appropriate to review the functions of the office, is not a criticism of Sir Norman or his recent predecessors.

Any such review would be bound to take place in the context of the current debate over the system of public prosecution in England and Wales. One view is that the system should be radically altered in favour of something like the Scottish procedure, with a procurator-fiscal figure in charge of all prosecutions, and the police playing no part at all in the decision whether or not to start criminal proceedings. A less radical proposal would introduce national uniformity in the prosecution process, which at present differs widely between the 41 police authorities. Often linked to that is a proposal for the appointment of area or regional DPPs.

Even without any reorganization of the system of public prosecution, there is a case for looking closely at the role of the DPP, for he is indeed a peculiar animal. Although appointed by the Home Secretary, he is responsible to the Attorney General

and through him, to Parliament (any claims which the Home Secretary used to have to be the DPP's master were removed, by statute, in 1946). The DPP's functions include taking decisions on whether or not to prosecute in certain cases or kinds of cases, or give his consent to a prosecution, as well as controlling and advising generally on the conduct of prosecutions and on questions of policy which arise.

Most of his duties and responsibilities are laid down by statute, the Prosecution of Offences Regulations 1946 being the most important. The DPP's consent to prosecute is required for all offences punishable by death (only one is left now, treason), for some serious common law offences, such as murder and conspiracy, and for some ninety-five separate offences which require his consent by statute. They include most sexual offences, obscene publications, illegal abortions, sedition, many serious offences against the person, all offences committed by police officers, some fraud and Companies Act infringements, and all matters involving possible extradition. There is also a motley group of offences requiring the DPP's consent to prosecute on such diverse subjects as underwater pipelines, water resources, trading with the enemy, aiding and abetting suicide, oil pollution, radio-active substances, reservoirs, football pools and the National Health Service. He must also authorize all withdrawals of prosecutions already commenced.

The DPP also advises government departments, the police and any other authorities either on their initiative or his own, "in any criminal matter which appears to him to be of importance or difficulty." That can include, for example, cases where the potential defendant is someone in the public eye or the holder of a senior position or is very old, cases where a difficult question of law is involved, and cases where there

are political implications. His discretion, on paper, is thus extremely wide and, in practice, difficult to question. Public reasons are never given. He is theoretically within his power to discontinue, as a matter of policy, prosecutions in an entire field of law, and some believe that he has done virtually that in the field of pornography. It must not be forgotten, however, that his refusal to consent to a prosecution does not prohibit a private citizen asserting his right to launch one, except in respect of those offences for the prosecution of which statute requires his consent.

How much discretion does he have in practice? His relationship with the Attorney General is perhaps the most shadowy area of his job. He is clearly stated by the 1946 regulations to be "in all matters... subject to the directions of the Attorney General." The consent of that law officer himself is required for some prosecutions, such as those involving terrorism or national security. Even where his consent is not specifically provided for, he has the final say on everything to do with criminal proceedings. Just as government departments and the police consult the DPP in difficult cases, so does the DPP consult the Attorney General when he thinks the case warrants it. In practice there is constant consultation between the two departments, at all levels.

The lack of clarity in that relationship must be a criticism of it. Who, in effect, makes the decisions, the DPP or the Attorney? It is right that different levels of criminal cases should be dealt with at different levels of decision-making authority. It can hardly be right that the public has no idea who is really responsible for prosecution policy, and what criteria are used. There is also a strong case for looking at all the DPP's functions together. Many of them arose haphazardly, and the ensemble seems to lack a rational basis.

## LESSONS TO BE LEARNT FROM HEATHROW

In the normal way, a management that decided to call in blacked labour to ward off the effects of an industrial dispute, even an unofficial one, would invite a scolding from trade unionists generally, and damage its relationship even with the union that had declined to give its blessing to its striking members. Today things are by no means so clear-cut. British Airways took a risk when they arranged for other workers (trade unionists themselves) to make minor checks on aircraft usually done by the maintenance engineers who are in unofficial dispute with the airline.

Most of their colleagues on the day shift did respond yesterday to their appeal to stop work. Since the line's entire operations would soon be brought to a halt by a complete stoppage, the company's gamble may yet fail. But there have been no sounds of outrage from the TUC and the response of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has been ambiguous. Mr. Reg Birch immediately condemned the arrangement with the other airport unions in strong terms. But he stands well towards the left of the union's leadership, and Mr. Scanlon, its leader, seems to have found it possible to contain his own indignation. Formally, at least, the union did not give its assent to the arrangement. It was represented at the meeting where it was discussed and merely "dissociated itself" from the plan. Its embarrassment over the challenge to its authority is acute, however, and it is doubtful even now whether it will be ready to declare the maintenance men's action official.

The airline's agreement with the fourteen other unions at Heathrow does not involve

porters tinkering with aeroplanes. A proportion of maintenance engineers have been at work on the day shift throughout the dispute, enough to keep a number of planes in working order. The agreement enables other workers to make the relatively simple routine checks without which the planes could not be brought into use. Domestic and continental flights were affected most because intercontinental planes can easily be serviced abroad, and because intercontinental flights were given precedence as a matter of policy.

The unofficial action is a ban on overtime and night shift working. Men scheduled for night work during the dispute have turned up in the morning and been turned away. The company is preparing dismissal notices for about a third of the Heathrow maintenance staff. The dispute is costing it about £3m a day in revenue. Sir Frank MacPhee, the chairman, declared last week that Mr. Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, hinted that a prolonged dispute would affect official policy towards future public investment in the company.

With the Government against them, and the airline, and the other airport unions, with their own union uncertain and with some of their own colleagues apparently hesitant about walking out in solidarity, the shop stewards may seem isolated. In many ways they are, but in one sense they are not. Their grievance is the common complaint of almost every group of workers with special skills anywhere where the writ of the social contract has run. Basically their demand for better shift pay and separate negotiating

rights expresses a conviction that neither phases one and two nor their own union have been sufficiently concerned to protect their differentials. In this respect, of course, the Heathrow dispute is closely comparable with the action of other members of the same union in British Leyland, and with the electricians' strike at the Port Talbot steelworks. Thousands of other workers bear the same fully justified grudge, but are rightly waiting at least until July before giving it force.

The union declares that on this point it has every sympathy with the maintenance men. But its history and its structure combine to make it more subject than most unions to open conflicts of interest between more skilled and less skilled workers. The Heathrow shop stewards feel that their interests would be better served if they spoke for themselves. So do many others; but that way lies industrial chaos. It is a characteristic of British trade unions that they tend to gather in a heterogeneous mass of workers with nothing very much in common. Industry-based unions, where workers of different degrees of skill have a common stake in the success of their industry, are relatively rare. Witness Heathrow itself, with its 15 unions. This structural problem makes it especially difficult to gain acquiescence in an incomes policy that would have a real chance of easing the tensions created in the past two years. Yet the Heathrow men show little sign of having understood that harsher economic disciplines will enforce restraint if there is no formal agreement, and that, as Mr. Albert Booth observed last week, there is not much differential in the dole queue.

### Nursery education

from Lady Britton and Mrs V. M. Hurst

The British Association for Early Childhood Education and the national Campaign for Nursery Education deeply regret the statement attributed to Sandra Edwards, chairman of the Preschool Playgroups Association (*The Times*, April 4), that expenditure on nursery education cannot be justified. Both the nursery expansion under the Urban Aid Programme and the expansion programme initiated by Mrs Thatcher in 1972 are supported by all parties and are for the underprivileged child, their most urgent aim. It is important to note that many of the children who most lack the right preschool experiences live in families where for one reason or another the parents are unable to provide the necessary community provision for them.

Nursery teachers and nursery nurses have since the early days of its century given patient, generous and unselfish encouragement, assistance and support to these children and their families in order that they should have the best possible experiences and skills when they enter school. The child enters at infant school, the concern of teachers and nurses for children and parents as individuals, and their lack of self-advertisement are sometimes led to their being undervalued by the superficial "lower" if the crucial importance of

their work had been properly appreciated we should long ago have had many more of them and might not now be so troubled by the failure of later educational provision to have the desired effect. Surely the last victims of cuts in spending should be these children.

All under-fives should have preschool experience appropriate to their needs. Nursery schools and classes are an essential element in a balanced programme in which other forms of provision including playgroups play a part.

Yours faithfully,  
N. BRITTON, Chairman,  
British Association for Early Childhood Education,  
Montgomery Hall,  
Kenilworth, CV31 1LH.  
VICTORIA HURST, Chairman,  
National Campaign for Nursery Education,  
33 Hugh Street, SW1.

Conservative. And the reason most often given? Labour Government and TUC cooperation has doubled unemployment, reduced living standards and meant savage cuts in education and social services, particularly in regard to the pensioners.

A close second is the fear of the power of the TUC in forcing the Labour Government to pass legislation that denies a man the chance to work.

Yours sincerely,  
FRED HARMAN, Chairman,  
Conservative Party, Unionists National Committee,  
Coppice House,  
Cosbrookdale,  
Salop, April 2.

**Trade unionists' fears**  
From Mr Fred Harman  
Sir, Mr Jasper Rothman (April 1) refers forebodingly to confrontation between Government (of any party) and the TUC. There is another confrontation building up, that between rank and file trade unionists and their left-wing leaders on the TUC.

## Future energy supplies

From the Chairman of the National Coal Board

Sir, President Carter's announcement last week of the new American policy on nuclear power has very wide implications for world energy developments as a whole. It emphasizes the need to keep all energy options open and to spread the risk through the whole range of possibilities.

In the debate on nuclear developments, the vital and continuing need for fossil fuels is often missed. Even if nuclear prospects were unaffected by the doubts which President Carter has now so forcibly expressed, there would still be a need to make the best use of the world's fossil fuel reserves. The fact is that nuclear power—renewable resources yet to be developed—will mainly produce base load electricity, whereas fossil fuels will be required for a very long time to meet the need for higher value uses such as transport and chemicals.

In the UK we are particularly fortunate in having at our disposal a full range of fossil fuels—coal, gas and oil—as well as an advanced nuclear technology and a research capability to tackle the problems presented by renewable sources. What is required is a clearly defined system of priorities. Substantial resources of finance and expertise have rightly been devoted to exploiting the gas and oil reserves of the North Sea. But these are generally acknowledged to have a limited life. Our greatest resources of fossil fuel by far are our massive coal reserves. It is for this reason that the management and unions in the coal industry have jointly presented a plan to government which goes up to the year 2000, by which time the industrialized world could well be in the throes of structural energy supply difficulties (the recent published OECD Report on the *World Energy Outlook* has concluded that the crunch could well come by 1985 unless effective policies were immediately implemented).

The long-term plan for making the most of our coal reserves depends essentially on three features: exploration, investment and research. An accelerated programme of exploration has over the past three years identified no less than a further 1,500 million tons of readily exploitable coal, worth at present prices some £30 billion. This is, of course, a small part of the estimated 45 billion tons of technically recoverable coal known to exist in Britain.

The rate of investment has also been substantially increased and has been estimated in our plan to require between £350 and £400 million per annum at present prices from now till the end of the century (and certainly beyond). Research is focused on improving mining techniques, particularly by the progressive introduction of remote control methods, and on developing effective and economic methods of coal conversion.

President Carter's announcement underlines the importance of pressing on with this policy, not only in Britain, but also in all other countries with exploitable coal reserves. It is expected that when the President announces his new strategy for energy in the United States later this month, coal will figure very largely in the proposals.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK EZRA,  
National Coal Board,  
Hobart House,  
Grosvenor Place, SW1.

## Commonwealth future

From Mr Ron Montague

Sir, The Commonwealth has survived upheavals before and I am sure it can outlast the present over-the-hill Uganda. Your correspondent Mr Lewis, whose article "The Moment of Truth for the Commonwealth" (April 4) is before me, is surely taking too gloomy a view of the whole thing.

We must not at odds with Uganda over fundamental or long-term questions, as I see it. We are outraged over a series of incidents (and rightly so in my view). We must control our outrage and allow for the possibility of decisions of Commonwealth members on the question of President Amin attending the heads of government conference in June. Surely that is what the Commonwealth is all about—common decisions democratically arrived at. That way lies continued growth and stature for the Commonwealth as a force for good in the world.

Yours sincerely,  
RON MONTAGUE,  
39 Orchard Drive,  
Barnet,  
Essex.

From Mr John Stebbing  
Sir, The disparaging remarks by Mr Roy Lewis (article, April 4) are out of place. In reference to reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Foundation abundantly shows.

Surely, unusual situations call for unusual measures. Why should not her Majesty's Government ask the Commonwealth Secretary General if he will cancel the formal meeting of Commonwealth leaders, in London, this year? The Commonwealth leaders invited to the silver jubilee celebrations could make use of the conference arrangements for informal discussions, bilateral, multi-lateral, regional. At any stage, the visiting leaders could ask the Commonwealth Secretariat to arrange some more general, but something more concrete. Much ground could be covered.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN STEBBING,  
Fair Beches,  
Burcot, near Abingdon,  
Oxfordshire.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Money supply and inflation

From Professor Lord Kahn

Sir, In your leading article of April 7 you include among monetarists the Keynes of *The General Theory of Employment Interest and Money* (published in 1933). In his earlier works Keynes had dabbled with the Quantity Theory. In *The General Theory*, while he certainly emphasized monetary influences on the behaviour of the economy, he regarded movements of the price level as mainly determined by movements of the level of money wage rates.

Monetarists attribute the high rate of inflation of recent years to the high rate of growth of the quantity of money. The interpretation which follows from Keynes's theory is that the proximate cause is the high rate of increase in money wages, over the past three years, the large rises on world markets of the prices of oil and, to a lesser extent, of other primary products.

To the extent that the rate of growth of the quantity of money falls short of the rate of increase in wages (less the rate of growth of production), credit will become progressively tighter. The results will be progressively deeper economic depression, growing unemployment and falling profits (and growing losses and an increasing number of bankruptcies). These consequences are accentuated if the Government raises taxes and cuts expenditure.

Many economists, other than monetarists, believe that the behaviour of money wages can be radically improved by a direct moderating influence on the process of wage bargaining; and that in this way catastrophe can be averted.

Such a moderating influence can be left to the trade union leaders. It is likely to be more effective in the form of an incomes policy in which the Government play a role, partly because the Government can indicate that success will result in their taking measures designed to stimulate the economy and reduce unemployment.

In conclusion, I offer to you the advice which Keynes offered to the editor of the *Financial News*, in a letter published on January 5, 1946.

"If you are not too old, as to which I have no information, I strongly recommend an operation. By modern methods an inflamed Quantity Theory can always be removed with much less danger than formerly." I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
K. KAHN,  
King's College,  
Cambridge.

### Fragile eggshells

From Mr G. F. Brookes

Sir, I am glad that the Poultry Research Centre has, after 10 years' investigation, been able to solve the worrying problem of modern hens' eggs splitting during boiling. People who have been worried lest food quality should be changed by technology will be reassured to know that the fault lies with the housewife, not the hen. May I offer some simple advice, known to all husbands who have learnt to boil an egg, that a small pin prick made in the egg rounded end will let expanding air escape from the air sac and save the shell from splitting.

Yours faithfully,  
G. F. BROOKES,  
10 High Beech,  
South Crofton,  
Surrey.

From Mr C. G. Eaton  
Sir, Hands are wrung over the prospect of President Amin turning up here. This problem would never have arisen had we not, in self-righteous zeal, demolished the traditional structure of government in Uganda by first undermining the authority of the late Kabaka and then by destroying him. It seems only just that we should now suffer some inconvenience as a direct consequence of the mischief we did. Unfortunately the people of Uganda, still in mourning, suffer the inconvenience.

Yours faithfully,  
C. G. EATON,  
Travellers' Club,  
Pall Mall, SW1,  
April 5.

Ten days later Hobhouse's diary, from which these extracts were first published by Leslie Marchand in his *Byron* biography in 1957, mentions twice "the coffin and the urn" at the funeral: so it would appear that the contents of the "vases" had all been mingled by this time in the single receptacle with a brass plate which Mr Bett-ridge saw.

Far more important is the evidence which Miss Wood's information seems to have added to the subject of Byron's leanness and the deformity of one or both of his feet. I look forward to the reaction of experts in this classical controversy.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL VVYAN,  
Crag House,  
Near Crook, Kendal,  
Westmorland,  
April 6.

### German socialist aims

From Professor Antony Flew

Sir, Lord Gladwyn (April 2) challenges Professor Lewis to say whether "the German Free Democrats, who are now in a coalition with Socialists, should no longer receive any 'Liberal' support." But it is Lord Gladwyn, not Professor Lewis, who is asking both British and German politicians to "tower" and through the disturbing lenses of an ambiguous vocabulary. Certainly our Labour Party and the German Social Democrats are both members of the Socialist International. But the German Social Democrats have since the late fifties "most categorically rejected" the public ownership of all the means of production, distribution and exchange "in favour of competitive private ownership and 'the social market economy'." By contrast Labour still retains the socialist Clause IV in its constitution and prints it on every party card. (The constitution of the TUC has, I am told, a similar clause; and there has

### Rescuing inner cities

From Mrs Yvonne Steve

Sir, Following the Secretary of State for the Environment's statement on the inner cities, all local authorities with responsibility for these areas will be considering how they can best take advantage of what the government has promised through your columns, urge that prime emphasis be placed on economic regeneration and employment in the inner city, and that new mechanisms be developed to achieve this.

One of the difficulties in the past has been the neat, clinical approach to town planning adopted by local authorities. This approach has, moreover, been applied to too narrow a field: housing and the environment have, for instance, traditionally been the concern of the authorities, but often to the detriment of an area's industrial and commercial strength. I believe that one very promising way in which local authorities can foster this strength is by setting up, in conjunction with local employers and trade unionists, industrial "task forces." I envisage that these would establish close relations with local firms, encourage their problems with them, and jointly work towards their solutions—linking as necessary with the local authorities themselves, the range of advisory bodies and sources of finance.

A "task force" would be a

channel of communication and information: it would ensure that local action was taken in the light of local needs; it would act as an advocate for those needs and foster local industrial development through its "hot lines" to central and local government departments; it would be a central point through which the government, premises, industrial landlords and tenants could be brought together... in short, it would get things done—it would be entrepreneurial and not bureaucratic.

I think we should also be clear that government action for the inner city should not be used to make massive financial injections into all industries; indeed I do not believe that industry would welcome this. But the authorities responsible for inner cities must have the resources necessary to overcome the difficulties of a 19th century industrial infrastructure, and be ready to apply those resources in an innovative way both to industries that can thrive and to those that are consistent with the National Industrial Strategy. Otherwise our cities face a deepening spiral of decay, deprivation and mounting social tension, at an incalculable cost to the country as a whole.

Yours faithfully,  
YVONNE STEVE, Member of the GLC for Ealing, Southall, Members' Lobby, County Hall, SE1.

**The Stechford vote**  
From Miss Enid Lakeman  
Sir, How on earth can Ronald Butt (column, April 7) know that the electors of Stechford began on Monday?

Those who voted for her candidate were 43.4 per cent of all who voted, or one quarter of the entire electorate. How many of them were themselves reactionaries, attracted by a leader regardless of their own complexion? How many more or fewer might have voted Conservative if Mr Heath had still been the leader? How many would have voted Conservative in any case, no matter who the leader or who the candidate?

One simply cannot draw valid conclusions about such things from our uninformative Xs.

Yours faithfully,  
ENID LAKEMAN, Director,  
Electoral Reform Society,  
6 Church Street,  
Southwark, SE1.

refer to several economists, one of whom is Jevons. You say that Jevons in 1863 suggested a time lag of one or two years between "an increase in the money supply" and an increase in prices. In your issue of August 23 1976 you quoted the passage from Jevons. In it he refers specifically to "an expansion of the currency." The two concepts are not the same. "Money Supply" in its modern usage (M1 and M3) is predominantly bank deposits, and currency is only a minor part of it.

Some of the economists you mention (and you might have added Marx and Cannan) were dealing specifically with currency, not with "money supply" as now defined. "Money supply" is not currency; it is the determinant, why it is that the enormous increase of bank deposits in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and up to 1914 (with a corresponding nearly as great increase of M1 and M3) was accompanied not by a rise of prices but a fall?

Yours faithfully,  
E. R. HARDCASTLE,  
115 Du Cane Court,  
Batham High Road, SW17,  
April 7.

From Mr W. A. M. Edwards  
Sir, The evidence given in your issue today (April 7) on "A Disease of Money" should convince those who approach the problem with an open mind. The scientific approach would be to limit the growth of the money supply to match increases in production and observe the results over a sufficiently long period of, say, three years. Action must be taken before the nation suffers complete financial collapse. "Diseases desperate grown, by desperate appliances are relieved, or not at all."

Yours faithfully,  
W. A. M. EDWARDS,  
Witley Park House,  
Great Witley,  
Worcester,  
April 7.

From Mr W. C. Wright  
Sir, If the rising of the sun each day really does cause the arrival of *The Times* in our homes (as you argued in your leader of April 7), then perhaps we might reformulate the classical philosophical Problem of Induction: "Can we ever be sure that *The Times* will appear tomorrow?" thereby conceding that the permanent possibility of industrial dispute has finally attained a truly metaphysical level of generality and pervasiveness.

Yours faithfully,  
W. C. WRIGHT,  
6 Spring Hill, E5,  
April 8.

never even been a Hugh Gaitskell to try—and fail—to get it removed.) Party constitutions, it may be said, are mere theology. So let us ask "Desecrated" and "Marxist" peoples' beliefs not by what they say but what they do. Here again the reward is clear. Every Labour parliament extends state ownership and control, and these extensions are supported by all, "moderate" and "Marxist" both. And if any "right-wing extremist" dares to suggest some denationalization, then the Labour Party is again unanimous that the march to the state where Clause IV is fully law must be irreversible. If our Liberals do what the Prime Minister hopes, and keep the Labour Government there till it can get returned to office on a rising tide of oil royalties, then the socialist march will certainly be resumed. This is not how it is with Chancellor Schmidt and the German Social Democrats.

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY FLEW,  
26 Alexandra Road, Reading.

I think we should also be clear that government action for the inner city should not be used to make massive financial injections into all industries; indeed I do not believe that industry would welcome this. But the authorities responsible for inner cities must have the resources necessary to overcome the difficulties of a 19th century industrial infrastructure, and be ready to apply those resources in an innovative way both to industries that can thrive and to those that are consistent with the National Industrial Strategy. Otherwise our cities face a deepening spiral of decay, deprivation and mounting social tension, at an incalculable cost to the country as a whole.

Yours faithfully,  
YVONNE STEVE, Member of the GLC for Ealing, Southall, Members' Lobby, County Hall, SE1.

### The stamp week

From the Rev Brian Taylor  
Sir, It is not only the Post Office that needs to be watched. There is a time when the DHSS stamp week began on Monday. The new style of card has weeks that begin on Sundays. Inquiry from the Department brought a reply that the Secretary of State was reluctant to cause weeks to begin on any day that seemed suitable. So at the time of the change we all paid the full rate for a six-day week.

Now we learn that the new, higher charges for stamps will begin on April 6. That is a Wednesday. Will it follow a three-day week?

Yours faithfully,  
BRIAN TAYLOR,  
The Rectory,  
Flower Walk,  
Culford,  
March 25.







**LAING**  
for tomorrow's  
BUILDING, CIVIL  
& INDUSTRIAL  
ENGINEERING

## Government acts to block Japanese steel shipment with an anti-dumping duty

By Peter Hill  
Industrial Correspondent

Tough new curbs on imports of selected steel products from Japan have been imposed by the Government. The move, announced last night, was designed to head off a consignment of nearly 20,000 tonnes of steel angles and sections bound for British and European ports.

Mr. John Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade, authorised the provision of an anti-dumping duty of 12.0 a tonne from midnight last Wednesday before leaving on an official visit to the Far East. The formal announcement was delayed because of the Easter holiday.

The decision has greatly heartened private sector steel-makers who have been urging a tough line against imports from Japan. The Government has been involved in a number of anti-dumping measures against steel imports from other sources but until now Whitehall has refrained from imposing such a duty on Japanese goods.

In the past few weeks pressure for the Government to act had been growing. The British Independent Steel Producers' Association submitted evidence to Whitehall that 4,500 tonnes of steel angles were on the way

from Yokohama to British ports with a further 14,500 tonnes labelled for various Continental ports, with the strong possibility that much of this would be transhipped by the merchant trade for Britain.

Many steelmakers saw the Japanese shipments as an attempt by the merchant trade to beat formal curbs since the Government was already engaged in a study of the Japanese import trend.

Last night the Department of Trade, referring to an article in *Business News* last Wednesday on the Japanese import threat, said: "It is possible that a consignment of 4,500 tonnes arrived some days before the *Times* story of last week. However, the Government acted within 24 hours of that story in order to catch what is estimated at almost 20,000 tonnes of steel destined for Europe."

BISPA last night warmly welcomed the speed with which the Government acted (introduction of dumping duties normally takes about five days) and said that the move should have effectively forestalled a major attack by the Japanese on the British market.

The action against Japan, the

organization said, was a key to the import problem and the industry could look forward to improved government and EEC assistance.

In the state steel sector, the British Steel Corporation's difficulties caused by the strike by 500 electricians at the Port Talbot plant in South Wales continued. The BSC is not disclosing losses, but it is estimated that the nine-day shutdown has cost £20m.

About 6,700 other workers have been laid off because of the strike over pay differentials. The plant provides much of the engine used by the United Kingdom canning industry and the BSC has been forced to import 70,000 tonnes of steel from Europe to keep open its tinplate plants in South Wales.

Yesterday the strike leader, Mr. Wyn Bevan, said that action may be taken to halt the BSC's steel imports and the strike committee would report the results of a review to a meeting of strikers set for Friday.

The BSC has said that the strikers' demands for pay rises in recognition of increased skills would breach the pay policy and would wreck differentials at its other steel plants.



Mr. James Wolfensohn: "appreciation of services."

## \$100,000 for ex-chief of Schroders

By Christopher Williams

Schroders, the merchant banking group, is to make a \$100,000 (£60,000) ex-gratia payment to Mr. James Wolfensohn, the Australian who resigned as deputy chairman in February.

Mr. Wolfensohn, who was brought in to become group executive deputy chairman from running Schroders' New York banking business in 1974, left the group to become a general partner in Salomon Brothers, the New York investment bank.

It had been widely assumed that Mr. Wolfensohn's appointment as deputy chairman was a prelude to his taking over as chairman on the retirement of Mr. Michael Verney, who will step down at the annual meeting next month. Instead, the job has gone to Lord Airie, who has been on the board of Schroders since 1970.

Mr. Verney said yesterday that, like other senior Schroders executives, Mr. Wolfensohn did not have a contract with the company. He said the size of the payment reflected the fact that for much of his time with Schroders, first in Australia and then in the United States, he had been earning dollar salaries by American standards the payment was not a big one.

In his annual report Mr. Verney refers to "our appreciation of his services, and in particular, the special contribution which he made in the conduct of the group's affairs in the international field over a number of years."

The payment, which is to be made in dollars, will have to be approved by shareholders at the annual meeting.

Financial Editor, page 17

## Sir Eric Miller rejects Peachey board's call to resign as director

By Desmond Quigley

Two weeks after resigning as chairman and managing director of Peachey Property Corporation, Sir Eric Miller is now attempting to fight off moves to oust him from the board altogether.

The stage now seems set for a big City dispute with Sir Eric, who was knighted in Sir Harold Wilson's resignation honours list last year, trying to prevent his fellow directors forcing him off the board at the company's next annual general meeting.

Last night Lord Mals, the chairman, declined to say why Sir Eric had been asked to resign. He said: "The annual accounts would be out shortly and the results would be 'no better or worse' than had been shown in the recent preliminary statement."

However, Lord Mals added that he had been asked to resign. "I think you will see the reason behind what has happened today."

A terse announcement from the company, released yesterday evening, said the board had asked Sir Eric Miller to resign as director but that he had declined to do so.

"Sir Eric retires by rotation at the forthcoming annual general meeting and is eligible for re-election."

"If he does stand for re-election, other directors will recommend shareholders to oppose his re-election and will themselves vote against it."

Lord Mals, former Lord Mayor of London and previously a non-executive director of the company, took over as chairman and managing director at the end of last month when Sir Eric gave up the posts because of "unavoidable publicity" affecting himself, his family and the company.

The move against Sir Eric did not come as a particular surprise to the City, indeed there had been some surprise that when Sir Eric stepped down as chairman and managing director he had not severed his links with Peachey altogether.

However, when he became chairman two weeks ago, Lord Mals said the directors had "reservations and regrets" about Sir Eric's decision. Lord Mals was "pleased that Sir Eric could continue to serve as a director" and commented that "we need his knowledge very much indeed."

At the same time Mr. Stephen Thompson, one of the two re-

maining directors after the deaths of two other senior directors last year, took over management of the group.

With his political links, he is Sir Harold Wilson's landlord, has longstanding connections with Mr. Reginald Maudling and is a former treasurer of the Socialists International. Sir Eric has figured prominently in political and City gossip columns.

However, recently rumours concerning Sir Eric have taken a different form. On March 24 he denied that there was any intention of asking for the suspension of the Peachey share quote after a particularly savage bear raid.

Commenting on the rumours, he said at the time: "How they could say that I do not know. One rumour suggested that I was supposed to have been arrested in Holland. I have not even been out of this country for three months. He also denied that he had sold his 504,085 shares in the group."

At the time that Sir Eric stepped down as chairman and managing director the group reported a 14 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £846,000 for the year ended June 24, 1976, after a £282,000 provision had been made.

## Arabs in line to acquire £6m Chelsea Hotel

By Ray McLaughlin

Arabic interests may have yesterday seen a 25m purchase of the Chelsea Hotel in Sloane Street from Adda International.

The purchaser is ostensibly Ranganate, a British registered company which is acting for Swiss clients. But Mr. Peter James and Mr. Michael Chappelov, the Ranganate directors, have been involved in Arab deals in the past.

Mr. James was behind the £9m Fazezide purchase of the Dorchester, and acted as a legal adviser to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia on the £3m acquisition of Mr. Ravi Thakoor's North London home earlier this month.

However, Mr. Brendan Burns, an associate of both Mr. James and Mr. Chappelov, denied yesterday that there had been any connection between Ranganate and Ranganate. As to the identity of the final purchaser, he said: "You're not going to find out. It's just not available to anybody."

Adda International, which they climbed 2p yesterday to 18p on the news that the forthcoming balance sheet would show a near £5.5m drop in United Kingdom borrowings to about £3m.

"We're replacing high-cost money," Mr. Godfrey Erbman, Adda finance director, commented. This was costing 4 per cent over the Finance Houses Association base rate.

Adda was forced to buy out the leasehold interest in the Chelsea when the developer failed in 1974, and then had to "finance it as best we could."

The Chelsea's 217 rooms are effectively priced at £27,630 each which, even allowing for the lower ballroom and conference space, compares attractively with the Dorchester sale price and reflects the bumper summer and autumn expected by London hotel trade this season.

The Chelsea has attracted a lot of interest in the past, but Ranganate, which has been negotiating in earnest for about a month, "is buying very good assets which fit well into a market place," Mr. Erbman continued.

For its own part, Adda "looked at the opportunity, cost, interest charges and the £450,000 trading profit for 1976, and concluded that in our situation it was a very good sale."

## 'Increasing' sterling need by Saudis

From Our Correspondent  
Jeddah, April 12

Saudi Arabia's requirements for sterling were "increasing to a substantial degree," Mr. Ahmed Abdul Latif, director general of the Foreign Department, said yesterday.

Mr. Abdul Latif said today that Saudi Arabia might choose Deutsche mark or Swiss franc bonds to convert part of its holdings of pounds sterling. He was commenting on the Bank of England's issue of new bond issues for major official holders of sterling.

Emphasizing that no decision had yet been taken in Saudi Arabia, he thought that the British offer was "very attractive from the investment point of view."

The size of a country's holdings would determine whether it ought to convert and there were attractive benefits to countries interested in diversifying their investment patterns. But he could not reveal the size of Saudi Arabia's sterling holdings.

"At present our holdings are sufficiently diversified, and we have enough of every currency to meet our important requirements. Even so, Saudi Arabia needs a lot of pounds sterling and the diversification factor is there as a secondary factor."

The bulk of Saudi Arabia's holdings are in United States dollars and the possible choice of Deutsche marks and Swiss francs for the conversion of sterling holdings provides some clue to the kingdom's future policy. No mention was made today of the Japanese yen, for which the Bank of England offer is considered in the West to be attractive.

Unofficially, financial observers here believe that the Saudis are attracted to the yen because it has the disadvantage of being exposed to Western industrial pressure while, at the same time, being subjected to tight controls by the Japanese Government.

While Saudi Arabia has not confirmed whether it will take up the Bank of England's new bond issues it is clear that they are receiving favourable consideration.

## Yen surge precedes trade surplus figures

By Caroline Atkinson

As the yen continued its upward surge on foreign exchange markets around the world yesterday, first figures for Japanese imports in March indicated that another embarrassingly large trade surplus will be published when the final figures are available at the end of this week.

Licensed imports in March were valued at \$6,664m, a rise of 18.3 per cent on a year earlier. This is smaller than the comparable rise in exports and shows that the trend of exports growing faster than imports, which has worried Japan's trading partners over the past few months, is still continuing.

The Japanese authorities bought dollars heavily again yesterday to prevent the yen rising above the 270 level. They had recently relaxed their tight grip on the external value

of the yen as a gesture of their wish to encourage imports, especially from those EEC countries such as Britain which have complained about their deteriorating trade balance with Japan.

With yesterday's close of 270.5 against the dollar the yen reached its highest point since the oil crisis of 1973. Trading was kept within very narrow limits by the official intervention.

The import figures, which follow closely the trend of those used in the official trade figures, showed that Japanese imports from Europe have risen by a smaller than average 14.8 per cent in the past 12 months. Imports from the United States were up by 30 per cent.

A broad breakdown by commodity shows a 20.8 per cent jump in food imports and a 17.8 per cent rise in the value of crude fuel imports.

## Italy may introduce a new lira at 1.5 to the pound

From John Earle  
Rome, April 12

Travellers in Italy in coming months may find they are getting 1.5 instead of more than 1,500 lire to the pound sterling.

Signor Gaetano Stannani, Minister of the Treasury, today said studies by the Bank of Italy were far enough advanced to make possible soon the introduction of a "new" or "heavy" lira, which the last three words, a lira at the rate of one for every thousand.

Interviewed on Italian television, the minister recalled that the proposal was not new. He believed the Government had the advantage of simplifying company and public accounts, as well as in recording circulation of the currency.

"I think personally that, the

studies carried out by the Bank of Italy have progressed sufficiently to advance the idea of a simplification of our monetary system in the near future," he added.

The idea of a heavy lira has been aired in recent days after lying dormant for years. In the postwar years Italy did not follow France and Greece in the introduction of a heavier currency unit—there was, in fact, the old—because of psychological opposition among public opinion.

Partly, Italians did not want to be deprived of the joy of dealing in millions and billions, after the poverty of wartime destruction; but, more important, they feared that the introduction of a heavier currency unit would mask a surmountable impost or levy on their assets.

## Trend of public spending below forecast

By David Blake

Figures out today are expected to show that public spending during the financial year just ended was held well inside the limits set at the last Budget.

Central Government Borrowing "Requirement" figures for March are expected to provide further evidence of the improvement in the public sector's financial position which led the Chancellor to reduce the estimated total borrowing requirement for 1976-77.

General Motors said it had discontinued research and development work on the rotary engine.

While it had made improvements in many areas of rotary engine technology, its rotary engines did not have the potential for low emission levels and fuel economy of piston engines, GM explained.

The disclosure that it had "discontinued research and development" of the Wankel engine comes seven years and an estimated \$100m (about £53m) after General Motors first began work on what was hailed at the time as a revolution in engine technology.

Reuters, AP-Dow Jones.

There is little doubt that the government's public sector to 1976-77, which was predicted in April last year, was the borrowing need of the central Government alone during 1976-77 is now expected to be £5,830m, of which £4,629m had been allocated for up to the end of February.

During the 11 months for which figures are already available, government spending from the Consolidated Fund was up 8 per cent on the previous year, compared with 11 per cent predicted at the time of the 1976 Budget.

The report also highlights a serious defect in the West German BMW 2002 car.

It concludes with an "urgent" request to investigate the alleged defects, order British Leyland and BMW to recall the cars, and then, urgently, increase efforts to investigate consumer complaints, and seek civil penalties on all manufacturers selling cars who fail to report defects in their models to the Government.

In addition, the Centre for Auto Safety demands that the government agency "seek civil penalties against British Leyland and BMW for failing to comply with the defect notification and recall provisions of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act when they were aware of defects."

A spokesman for Leyland International in London said the report was based on information "secured out of context" from a document produced by Leyland's New York office, which was drawing attention to defects found in imported models.

All the defects listed in the report had been dealt with under warranty and the company had complied with United States federal regulations.

He dismissed as "nonsense" the group's claim that Leyland had showed callous disregard of owner and warranty complaints. The company had asked the group for the full text of the letter.

## Cement makers seeking increase

Another round of cement price rises is expected shortly. The cement makers' Federation is expected to seek a rise of 15 per cent to cover increasing costs, chiefly fuel.

If passed by the Price Commission the new prices will come into force in May. The rise will be the last this year in the CAP group for £549,111.

The board made it clear last night that it would not be interfering in the activities of the Mollart company. Apart from the one NEB director, the Mollart board will remain unchanged.

## Refugee Assurance Company Limited

RESULTS FOR 1976

In the Life Assurance Branches the surplus for the year allocated to policyholders was £15,382,000 (1975 £13,213,000).

In the Fire and Accident Branch there was a loss on underwriting of £120,000 (1975 £18,000 profit), and investment income amounted to £384,000 (1975 £309,000).

At 31st December 1976 the total assets in the Balance Sheets amounted to £352 millions (1975 £334 millions).

## TAYLOR, PALLISTER & CO. LTD.

### Chairman's Statement in respect of the Final Dividend

Group Sales were £206,682 higher at £1,982,020 of which £787.3 (39.7%) represented direct exports as compared with £550,227 (33.6%) in the previous year. We were fortunate to have a full order position during the year with no cut backs in working, our non production sales continue to contribute satisfactorily, and I am therefore pleased to report that Group profit before taxation for 1976 was £147,782 (£69,696 after taxation) as compared with £128,087 (£62,251 after taxation) in 1975.

Your directors recommend a final dividend of 3.13225p per share (12.52%) payable on the 2nd June 1977 which together with the interim dividend of 0.91212p per share (3.68%) makes a total of 4.04437p per share (16.21%) for the year. As reported at the time of the announcement of the interim dividend the present disparity between the interim and final dividends is to be considered for future years with the intention of bringing these into line with what is considered a more reasonable proportion.

Our order book, partially made up of orders of some substance which our resources made possible, is satisfactory and is encouraging considering the lower level of activity in the marine field. Some caution is necessary with the falling off in world shipping generally and a rate of inflation in the U.K. continuing to be higher than most other countries. Continually rising costs and the complete withdrawal of regional employment premiums together with the unknown effects of Stage 3 of the income policy make it not possible to forecast for the coming year, but our products continue to be in demand throughout the world and provided we can achieve satisfactory levels of production we anticipate benefiting from the opportunities available.

R. H. TAYLOR.

## Britain develops first plastic mini-submarine

British engineers have built the world's first plastic mini-submarine. For five years the submarine, which costs £500,000, has been a closely-guarded commercial secret, even during visits to the rigorous sea and depth trials, and is going into production at the Kirkcubright, Yorkshire, plant of Vickers Slingsby—part of the Vickers group, which makes nuclear submarines.

The 21ft-long submarine is the development of Mr. Jim Tucker, a former aerospace engineer.

The three-man, rust-free submarine, necessary for North Sea oil exploration and maintenance, will last 10 to 15 years longer than metal models.

Yesterday Mr. Tucker said: "The problem for the Russians, Americans and us has been that plastic is not strong enough to withstand water pressure. But we have been able to reinforce it with glass and it is now as tough as steel."

"Obviously the big advantage is that it will not rust. But it also means a bigger pay load, it's warmer and more comfortable for the crew."

The plant has, in fact, already sold three submarines, which it will make at the rate of one a year. Two went to Vickers Oceanic and the other to a Norwegian company.

## How the markets moved

| Rises                       | Falls                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Adda Int 2p to 18 1/2p      | GKN 7p to 30 1/2p          |
| Beecham 2 1/2p to 43 1/2p   | Leeds Russel 7p to 10 1/2p |
| BP 10p to 82 1/2p           | Ocean Trans 7p to 14 1/2p  |
| Caterpillar 10p to 25 1/2p  |                            |
| De Beers Ryd 6p to 23 1/2p  |                            |
| Harmon Cross 13p to 53 1/2p |                            |
| Hill & Smith 4p to 37 1/2p  |                            |
| Jacks W 2p to 15 1/2p       |                            |
| Lasmo Ops 6p to 28 1/2p     |                            |
| Lee Cooper 5p to 8 1/2p     |                            |
| Lloyds & Scot 5p to 8 1/2p  |                            |

## THE POUND

| Bank                 | Bank        |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Australia 5 1/2p     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Austria Sch 21.80    | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Belgium Fr 62.50     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Canada 1.50          | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Denmark Kr 10.65     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Finland Mk 7.14      | Bank 1 1/2p |
| France Fr 8.76       | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Germany Dm 4.27      | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Greece Dr 64.75      | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Hong Kong S 8.20     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| India Rupee 148.00   | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Japan Yen 493.80     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Netherlands Gld 4.44 | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Norway Kr 9.45       | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Portugal Esc 67.50   | Bank 1 1/2p |
| S Africa Rd 2.05     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Spain Pes 121.50     | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Sweden Kr 7.50       | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Switzerland Fr 4.53  | Bank 1 1/2p |
| US \$ 1.76           | Bank 1 1/2p |
| Yugoslavia Dnr 34.25 | Bank 1 1/2p |

Equities stayed firm. Gold edged securities fell on inflation worries. Dollar premium 119.75 per cent (effective rate 44.527 per cent). Sterling closed 6 points up at 51.7193. The effective exchange rate was 61.6.

Gold closed \$1.16100 on Tuesday. SDR-S was 1.16100 on Tuesday. While SDR-S was 0.65393. Commodities: Reuters' index was 1741.0 (previous 1732.2). Reports pages 18 and 19.

## On other pages

|                            |        |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Business appointments      | 16     |
| Appointments vacant        | 19, 22 |
| Wall Street                | 18     |
| Bank Base Rates Table      | 19     |
| Annual Statements:         | 16     |
| Refuge Assurance           | 15     |
| Schroders                  | 16     |
| Scottish Provident         | 18     |
| Preliminary Announcements: | 17     |
| Taylor Pallister           | 15     |
| Redemption Notices:        | 16     |
| City of Oslo               | 17     |

# REFUGE

ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

## RESULTS FOR 1976

In the Life Assurance Branches the surplus for the year allocated to policyholders was £15,382,000 (1975 £13,213,000).

In the Fire and Accident Branch there was a loss on underwriting of £120,000 (1975 £18,000 profit), and investment income amounted to £384,000 (1975 £309,000).

At 31st December 1976 the total assets in the Balance Sheets amounted to £352 millions (1975 £334 millions).

# REFUGE

ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Chief Office (Registered Office), Oxford Street, Manchester, M60 7HA.  
Registered Number 1304C-England.



## Spectre of 3p beer levy still haunts brewers

By Ronald Emiler

There is increasing concern within the drinks sector that the Government will give in to the pressure and withdraw the 51p a gallon extra taxation imposed on petrol in the Budget in favour of increased levies on alcohol. The Chancellor has given warning that such a move could mean an extra 3p on a pint of beer.

Already some brewers are pointing out that British beer is the most highly taxed in Europe, while our petrol and fuel oils bear the lowest taxation in the EEC. It is also felt that the Liberals might reap an unwelcome harvest in the next election because there are "as many beer drinkers as drivers in rural areas who will resent the taxation switch".

The Liberals object to the higher petrol levy as they consider it an undue burden in rural areas where cars have become a necessity because of the withdrawal of public transport services.

Brewers are already resigned to the prospect of a minimum increase in sales volume this year, even if there is a third successive heatwave summer. To recoup the £310m the Chancellor originally planned to take from petrol and fuel oil in a full year, Mr. Healey would need to put 3p on a pint, assuming the whole import were transferred to beer.

However that would take no account of a potential sales decline due to the increase in duty and value-added tax which could mean the Chancellor might have to put on an additional 3p or even 4p a pint to yield the same revenue.

To spread the burden more widely across the drinks sector would also be unwelcome. The Wine and Spirit Association has already presented a petition to the Treasury demonstrating that leaving duties untouched in the present market maximizes the return to the Chancellor.

## Britain in traffic research project

Britain, Belgium, France and Germany are among countries which have agreed to cooperate in an international research project designed to produce a standard system of electronic traffic aids for major roads.

The European Community itself is also expected to participate in the project, mounted under the auspices of the Committee on European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (CEST). Its aim is to develop techniques for the control and management of traffic.

## 'Significant' Japanese imports of UK motor components forecast

By Clifford Webb

A team of visiting Japanese motor industry executives has decided that Britain's labour relations problems are not nearly as bad as they are painted overseas. As a result they predict that British component and accessory exports to Japan will "reach significant levels in the long term".

A joint statement issued yesterday by the Japanese Automotive Manufacturers' Association and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders described it as "a turning point in Anglo-Japanese relations in this field". As a first move some of the major Japanese car makers are considering appointing European purchasing agents.

The 13 senior executives, all concerned with their companies' purchasing policies, represent leading companies,

including Toyota, Nissan (Datsun), Honda, Isuzu, Fuji, Mitsubishi and Toyo-Kogyo. They arrived on March 20 for a three-week tour organized jointly by the SMMT and the British Overseas Trade Board.

From the outset the Japanese were at pains to point out that their visit was a "look-and-see operation" only and unlikely to lead to firm orders—a statement which seemed to substantiate the widely held view that the visit was little more than window dressing to relieve the growing pressure for government restrictions on Japanese car imports.

Lt's night a British official who has been involved in the visit said: "They came with the preconceived view that British Leyland's much-publicized labour problems were typical of the general position here. This was obvious from the time they spent questioning managers

and shop stewards about the incidence of strikes. They were frankly surprised to discover that this is just not true. As a result there are much more confident about the prospects for component sales in Japan."

The official statement issued yesterday at the end of the visit said: "It is clear as a result of these discussions, that certain anxieties about labour relations in the component and accessory industry have been dispelled."

It reported that 10 samples and 20 firm price quotations had been requested from the 17 companies visited.

A delegation from the SMMT will return the visit next month. It will coincide with an exhibition of components and accessories being staged at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo and may be followed up by British stands at the Tokyo motor show in October.

## Three-month record for hallmarking

By Patricia Tisdall

Gold and silver articles submitted for hallmarking broke new records during the first three months of 1977, according to figures issued yesterday by the Joint Committee of the Assay Offices of Great Britain.

Compared with the same quarter of last year, the weight of silver sent for testing jumped 57 per cent to a total of 45,732 kilograms. The number of articles rose by 29.4 per cent to over 2.2 million wares, reflecting an increase in bowls, dishes and tankards being specially produced for the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

To commemorate the Jubilee, silver wares weighing more than 15 grams are being struck with a special mark of the Queen's head in profile as well as the sponsor's mark, standard mark, office mark and date letter.

The weight of all the gold wares assayed in the offices in London, Birmingham, Sheffield and Edinburgh climbed by 32.4 per cent compared with the 1976 period, to a total of 14,282 kilograms while gold wares rose 40 per cent to a total of over 3.6 million articles.

A spokesman for the committee said that the totals for gold and silver hallmarked were an all-time record. The normally slack January, February and March periods have been exceptionally active with only a pause in January.

But platinum has had a disappointing quarter with the weight of metal tested declining by 23.5 per cent to 19,308 grams on 25 per cent fewer articles sent in for testing.

## Shell starts drilling off western Ireland

By Peter Hill

Shell has begun a new offshore drilling programme off the west coast of Ireland. The company has spudded in its first well, which is farther west than any so far drilled in European waters.

Through its Irish affiliate, Irish Shell Petroleum Development Company, Teoranta, as operator for a partnership with AGP, Ireland, the first well has been drilled in 1,550ft of water, 110 miles off the coast on block 35/13, one of the exploration blocks released last year.

The company is using the drilling rig, Sedco 707, one of a new generation of heavy duty semi-submersible rigs which

were built last year and are designed for use in the most severe environmental conditions. The rig is being operated by Marine Drilling SA and has already drilled one well (in British waters) for the Royal/Dutch Shell group.

Technical staff involved in supervising the operation have been based at Limerick, and the supply base for the drilling programme is being carried out from Foyes, on the river Shannon estuary, using two specially designed supply boats. The well, which was spudded in last week, is also the first to be drilled in such deep water off Ireland. Until now most oil exploration activity off the Irish coast has been concentrated on the south-east side.

## More textile jobs lost during February

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Further reductions in the cotton and allied textile industry's labour force were revealed yesterday. Total employment in the industry in February was 500 less compared with a year earlier, with reductions in the weaving and waste spinning sectors more than offsetting higher employment in the cotton system spinning and finishing sectors.

According to the latest figures published by the Textile Statistics Bureau, the daily rate of single yarn production in February was 1 per cent more than in January and 10 per cent higher than in the corresponding month last year.

The bureau noted that although production was below the levels reached in May, October and November 1976, the volume of new orders booked by spinners was appreciably greater.

The daily rate of woven cloth production rose 13 per cent compared with January, but output was 21 per cent below the year earlier level.

Whereas the industry's "Woven" stocks of cloth fell again during the month and reached their lowest point for almost two years.

Italian wages: A study of the wage structure in the Italian textile industry finds that pay rates remain uncompetitively high despite recent curbs.

The study says the index of labour costs per unit of production at the end of this year will

be 190 in Italy (the rate in the United States equals 100). This compares with 150 in West Germany, 140 in Switzerland, 126 in France and 114 in Britain.

The study was carried out by Signor Alberto Colli, a labour expert for the Textile Industry League. However, he noted that "the situation is not peculiar to the cotton textile sector (where his study), but largely represents the average situation in the manufacturing sector".

Signor Colli noted that with recent wage curbs, which affect the rate at which cost of living pay increases are applied and the method for calculating severance pay, the increase in cash salaries in Italy probably can be held to 16 per cent.

## In brief

### Receiver put in at Tristar Travel

A joint industry rescue attempt has failed to save Tristar Travel whose licence to sell inclusive air holidays was not renewed by the Civil Aviation Authority earlier this month. The Association of British Travel Agents said yesterday it had been advised by the company that it had ceased trading and a receiver was being appointed.

The bond lodged with the association, estimated at just over £100,000, has been called in to refund an estimated 13,000 passengers who booked with Tristar. The association said all passengers would be protected from loss.

### Anti-bankruptcy loans

Japan's Government has developed an emergency financing system to prevent smaller companies from going bankrupt in reaction to failure by their parent groups, the Trade and Industry Ministry said yesterday. The system, applicable for companies from April 18, allows government financial institutions to supply emergency loans up to 20 million yen (about £43,000).

### IFO output forecast

West German manufacturing industry expects its turnover to rise by 9 per cent this year and 7 per cent in 1978 after an 11 per cent rise last year, the IFO economic research institute of Munich said yesterday. Domestic turnover growth in 1977 is expected to slow to 8 per cent.

### Business appointments

**Standard Chartered new director**

Mr Alexander Robertson has been appointed a director of Standard Chartered Bank. Mr Peter Melville becomes a director of Standard Chartered Merchant Bank.

Mr F. Norman has been made managing director of Manders (Holdings) in succession to Mr J. D. F. Tavendale, who continues as chairman.

Mr D. A. Langford has been made company secretary of English China Clays; Mr T. D. B. Giles becomes group financial controller.

Mr Aubrey Jones, formerly chairman of the Prices and Incomes Board, has become a director of Black & Decker.

Mr R. G. Sambrook is appointed a director of Willis, Faber & Dumas.

Mr Peter Bennett and Mr Trevor Holdsworth become non-executive directors of Thorn Electrical Industries. Mr Bennett is chairman of W. H. Smith & Son (Holdings) and Mr Holdsworth is deputy chairman of Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds.

Mr F. Mayer has joined the board and becomes managing director of Rothschild Investment Trust. Mr L. S. Wigdor also becomes a director.

Mr D. Le Pemberton has been appointed chairman of National Westminster Unit Trust Managers on the retirement of Sir John Pridemore. Mr A. de la B. Chief executive and a deputy chairman of the National Westminster Bank Group, and Mr J. P. Morton, investment manager, trustee and incomes tax department, become directors, succeeding Mr J. A. F. Blinn and Mr G. L. Pickett, who have retired.

Mr J. H. Webb, deputy general manager and principal secretary, Commercial Union Assurance, succeeds Mr R. E. Allen as a director.

Mr R. C. Chapman has joined the board of Courtauld. Mr W. W. W. Barrington, secretary of the British Gas Corporation, will retire on June 30 and will be succeeded by Mr Gordon May, who becomes secretary-designate on May 1. Mr E. A. Haynes is deputy chairman of the north-eastern region from May 1.

Daruk Ely Basir bin Ismail has been appointed deputy chairman of Kalut (Malaysia) Berhad and Lord C. J. Lowe joins the board. Mr T. B. L. Coghlan has resigned.

Following the acquisition by EMI, Mr R. L. Watt becomes a director of Development Securities and succeeds Colonel J. A. T. Barstow as chairman. Mr R. S. Updell and Mr P. I. Bayman become directors.

Mr Sir Robin Alpin, Sir Edwin McAlpine, Mr Malcolm McAlpine, Mr Michael Richards and Mr Derek Rudden have resigned from the board.

Mr W. R. Merton has been appointed chairman of The Sterling Trust, on retirement of Mr Michael Berry.

Mr Ronald Nelson becomes chairman of Robson Lowe, after the retirement of Sir Peter Forsley. Mr Robson Lowe has rejoined the board and Mr Adriano Canali has also been made a director.

Mr Graham Carey and Mr David Crocker have been elected to the board of Robson Lowe International. Mr Charles Leonard becomes a director of Woods of Perth (Printers).

Mr M. A. Butt has been appointed chairman of Bland Payne (UK).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The hard facts of a wages policy

From Lord Brown

Sir, There are a number of conceptual points which have to be borne in mind when consideration is being given to a national wage policy.

(1) There are about six different levels of differential as follows:

(a) Those between individual employees;

(b) Between groups of employees working at the same level in the hierarchy;

(c) Between different levels of the hierarchy;

(d) Between different hierarchies in the same industry;

(e) Between different "industries", e.g. engineering, Civil Service, mining, teaching, etc.;

(f) Between citizens in different categories, e.g. those employed, unemployed, pensioners, disabled, etc. Unless clarity exists as to which differentials are being dealt with when arrangements are made, chaos can result.

In 1975 the big strikes mostly concerned level (e) above. Recent strikes in Leyland and British Airways concern level (b). Clearly the negotiations for phase three will at least have to deal with (e) and (b). The principle could be applied to both.

(2) Constant reference is made to the desire of some groups of employees to return to "free collective bargaining". It must be quite clear that the word "collective" is in direct contradiction to what is being sought. What Leyland tool-makers and BA maintenance men want is the right to negotiate separately—not collectively.

There has always been the greatest reluctance on the part of most trade unions to join with other unions and negotiate collectively with management.

(3) There is an underlying principle about bargaining over differentials at all levels which is seldom recognized explicitly. It is not possible to make a

sustainable change in a pattern of differential earnings by alteration to the pay level of one group unless that change is agreed not only by those who benefit by the change, but also by those who do not. Otherwise the change made to the earnings of one group immediately leads to similar claims by all other groups. If these are granted then no change has been made to the pattern of differentials.

This means that if the "kitty" principle (as for example described in a recent PEP publication) is used, say for a single company, then all employed in that company must, through their representatives, agree how the "kitty" is to be distributed to all ranks and employee groups. This, in turn, involves the establishment of unanimous voting councils or at least the agreement of all representatives to abide by the majority view, the method used by the TUC to get agreement on phases one and two.

These three points are not fancy new ideas but simply a recognition of facts. Unless they are recognized and brought into the open as a basis of phase three then the arrangements will fail to function satisfactorily.

One last point which is not factual but nevertheless of great importance concerns fringe benefits. Will there ever be a time when it is possible to contemplate a return to power bargaining by individual groups or trade unions without the prospect of an economic inflation?

The current assumption that after phase three all will be well is an evasion of reality. National wage policies are with us for keeps if we are to avoid the sort of inflation which nearly brought the country to its knees in 1975.

Yours truly,  
WILLIAM BROWN,  
23 Prince Albert Road, NW1.  
April 4.

### The law of competition in business

From Mr B. V. Mecher

Sir, Your correspondent Mr Hugh Stephenson (March 28) plainly misrepresents the level of business acumen prevalent in the Tory party in the late sixties, and his memories are incorrect.

The law of competition has almost invariably meant that in an evolving business small independents are bought out. The cases of Burnham's retail chain and of Duckham's (the first multigrade) Oil are two in point. The policy in question was not that of a return to anything, but an encouragement of local initiative in ideas and invention, leading to personal financial success, whether or not the enterprise in question were to be a permanent one.

This was a response to the hierarchical structure of industrial assessments and of government departments. In the one case profits were sure, mere size signified, and so research expenditure kept minimal. This has been a recurrent pattern even in giant international companies. In the other, evidence of a very detailed kind was required, as Mr Cockerell will no doubt be pleased to inform the curious.

Finally, the evidence is the number of inventions, from Xerox to carbon fibres to swing-wing jets, to name only three, which were unsuccessful, and which Mr Cockerell will no doubt be pleased to inform the curious.

The risks should be obvious to all. Yours sincerely,  
B. V. MECHER,  
17 Meale Walk,  
Meale Brace,  
Surreybury, Shropshire.

### Operation of credit unions

From Mr A. C. A. Hopkins

Sir, The column "In Brief" on April 6 included the statement that the Government plans "to allow the introduction of credit unions in Britain" in legislative proposals for the Licensing and Supervision of Depository Institutions. This is unfortunately rather misleading.

What the Government is proposing is to improve the legal arrangements under which credit unions operate, by revising the provisions of the Industrial & Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969, and applying it to Great Britain.

Credit unions were introduced to Britain in the early 1960s when Credit Union (Wimbledon) Limited was incorporated. There are numerous other registered CUs now, registered under either the Companies Acts or as Friendly Societies.

The new legislation proposed will reduce the cost of establishing and operating credit unions and will make the movement spread more easily as a result.

Yours faithfully,  
A. C. A. HOPKINS,  
Secretary,  
RRC Credit Union Ltd,  
11 Mead Close,  
Surrey, TW20 8JA,  
Egham.

### Price freeze fear of every company

From Mr T. Fortescue

Sir, I must apologise for trespassing on your columns again so soon after my last letter ("The Budget: freezing prices", April 2), but Mr Hattersley's comments on his newly-published Price Commission Bill, as reported on your front page (April 5) are so extraordinary that they must be brought to your attention.

The Bill includes as expected the power, which the Chancellor in his Budget speech denied by implication, for the Price Commission to freeze without explanation a notified price increase for up to four months from the date of notification, while it undertakes an investigation of the company concerned. In the light of the investigation the increase can be allowed in full, allowed in part or disallowed. If it is allowed in full or in part the company will have no redress in compensation for its loss for a period of legitimate revenue.

In his comments Mr Hattersley is reported to have said: "The efficient company will have nothing to fear." It seems impossible to convey to him that under his proposals all

companies will have something to fear—the possibility of a four month price-freeze; and that the Price Commission will have no way of knowing whether a company is efficient until it has carried out its investigation. So the sequence of events will be: freeze, then investigate, then possibly allow.

The efficient company will have the freeze to fear, as much as the inefficient.

In my previous letter I suggested that we had to choose between the assumption that the Chancellor had got it wrong and the assumption that Mr Hattersley was to make a concession. There is, as I forecast, no concession. This time we have to choose between the assumption that Mr Hattersley does not understand his own Bill and the assumption that he is making deliberately misleading statements. It is a choice which I hesitate to make.

Yours faithfully,  
TIM FORTESCUE,  
Secretary General, Food and Drink Industries Council,  
1-2 Castle Lane,  
London SW1E 6DN.  
April 5.

# Schroders

## Mr. Michael Verey, Chairman of Schroders Limited, reports on 1976

The Group had another successful year. The disclosed consolidated profit (after taxation and transfers to inner reserves), together with other surpluses credited to disclosed consolidated reserves, amounted to £6,555,000 compared with £6,230,000 in 1975. The disclosed profit of the banking and insurance subsidiaries was 24 per cent. higher than in 1975.

A maximum permitted final dividend is recommended, making a total for the year of 10.2425p per share compared with 9.3114p per share for 1975.

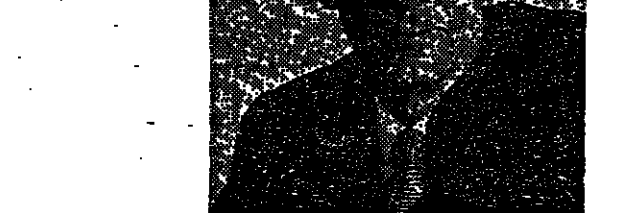
The earnings of J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited exceeded last year's record level. The banking division's profits were higher than ever before. The investment division continued to be profitable. The company finance division made its highest contribution yet to the bank's results.

The Schroder Life Group's new business results overall were encouraging and Schroder Finance, now Schroder Leasing, had another record year. Schroder Computer Services achieved a further improvement in external income.

Earnings from the Group's operations in the United States improved significantly owing to increased revenues from virtually all service activities and from higher security profits. The volume of lending business expanded while record revenues were achieved in the portfolio management and investment banking areas.

In Switzerland, J. Henry Schroder Bank A.G. again achieved excellent results.

In Brussels, we and The Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corporation each took a fifty per cent. interest in MTBC & Schroder Bank which opened in September, 1976.



In Australia, the Schroder, Darling Group was helped by declining short term interest rates to achieve a record pre-tax profit in the year to 30th June, 1976.

In Brazil, the Schroder-Monteiro Aranha companies continued to expand and we have remained active elsewhere in Latin America.

In the Far East, Schroders & Chartered enhanced its position in Hong Kong. Our Tokyo representative office continued to expand its activities. Group earnings from our Japanese business reached record levels. In October, 1976, we acquired an interest of just under twenty-five per cent. in Singapore International Merchant Bankers Limited.

In the Middle East, the Group expanded its activities satisfactorily and we acquired a shareholding in a new investment bank in Saudi Arabia, The Saudi Investment Banking Corporation.

Our associated company, Property Holdings International Limited, has been faced with difficulties. The sectors of the United States real estate market in which its projects principally lie did not show the improvement which had been looked for at the beginning of 1976.

After 43 years with the Group I am retiring at the Annual General Meeting on 4th May, 1977 when the Earl of Airlie will succeed me. I record my grateful thanks to all those who have worked or who now work for the Group.

# schroders

Group Companies, Associates and Representative Offices In:  
Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, The Cayman Islands, Colombia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States of America.

If you would like a copy of the Schroders Limited Report and Accounts, please write to The Secretary, Schroders Limited, 120 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DS.

## American Trust Company Limited

Summary of the results for the year ended 31st January 1977

### CONSOLIDATED GROUP FIGURES

|   | 1977      | 1976      |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Total assets  | \$61.2m   | \$61.6m   |
| Asset value per share   | 46.9p     | 48.3p     |
| Revenue available for ordinary shareholders                               | \$886,575 | \$786,618 |
| Earnings per ordinary share   | 1.150p    | 1.246p    |
| Earnings per ordinary share assuming full conversion of B ordinary shares | 1.077p    | 0.965p    |
| Dividends per ordinary share  | 1.100p    | 1.350p    |
| Capitalisation issue (B ordinary shares)                                  | 3.56496%  | 4.2774%   |

### DIVIDENDS

Of 19,185,923 B shares in issue at 17th May 1975, 13,991,143 have been converted into ordinary shares ranking for dividend. The directors recommend that a final dividend of 0.68p per share be paid on the ordinary shares, making a total of 1.10p per share. This compares with 1.35p per share last year, and with a minimum of 1.00p forecast in this year's interim report. In recommending this dividend rate the directors have been concerned to establish a realistic level from which dividends can grow in future in line with increases in income from investments, and have taken into account the effect of conversion of the remaining B shares.

### POLICY AND PROSPECTS

In the United Kingdom perhaps the main event affecting the economy was the steep fall in sterling during the year. Although the negotiation of the IMF package led to some return of confidence in financial markets, prospects continue to be affected by the danger of renewed inflation. The directors are adopting a cautious policy with regard to United Kingdom equity investments. They consider that the potential for long-term gains in United States equities remains superior to that in other markets, and will continue to invest a substantial proportion of the portfolio there.

### PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION (excluding subsidiary companies)

|                               | 1977  | 1976  |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|
| United Kingdom                | 33.7  | 42.3  |
| U.S.A.                        | 30.9  | 33.9  |
| Japan                         | 2.9   | 3.7   |
| Europe                        | 2.7   | 5.8   |
| Canada                        | 1.9   | 2.5   |
| Far East                      | 1.2   | 2.4   |
| South America                 | 0.9   | 0.9   |
| Fixed interest                | 5.9   | 3.6   |
| Cash and short term deposits* | 19.9  | 4.9   |
|                               | 100.0 | 100.0 |

\*Unusually large cash balances were held at 31.1.1977 in anticipation of impending loan repayments.

Copies of the report and accounts may be obtained from the managers and secretaries, Edinburgh Fund Managers Ltd., at 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7JB where the annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th May 1977 at 12.15 p.m.







## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Gilt in gloom; shares in bloom

Gilt and equities went their separate ways when trading resumed after the four-day break. There was a surprisingly strong showing on the equity pitches against a generally unfavourable news background and in front of today's crucial talks on the next phase of the incomes policy.

Bargains marked of 4,800 were the lowest since the start of the year, but a light demand and a complete absence of sellers was enough to send most prices quickly ahead. By the close, the FT index was 4.9 up to 407.9, its highest level of the day and its strongest performance in nine sessions.

But inflation worries left gilt well down on the day, even though selling was limited to light profit-taking. The specific concerns were that Friday's retail figures will show an acceleration in the pace of in-

Interim profits of market high-flyer Kwik Save Discount are due on Friday and some feel estimates of £3.4m, against £2.1m, may prove to be conservative. The benefits of new stores should be coming through and the pace of inflation should give the edge on more traditional rivals. Developments in the group's "march south" are also awaited with interest. The shares held steady at 171p.

flation and that next week's trade figures may show a bigger deficit of around £300m.

The hope of another small cut in MLR did little for the general sentiment and long dates closed three-quarters of a point lower and at the bottom. Losses at the short end ranged between one-quarter and three-eighths and dealers said the market as a whole had temporarily run out of steam. After last week's news that merger talks had been called off, Gallenkamp returned to favour with the "A" shares

rising 6p to 276p after 280p. Talk that Hoover may receive terms from its American parent had the "A" 5p to the good at 285p, while speculation of a move by Lorrain had Suits 3p up at 71p.

After the lapsing of the Borthwick terms, FMC closed 2p lower at 95p, after 93p, while further speculative interest in Pork Farms brought a rise of 5p to 155p.

Among the industrial leaders the strongest performances came from Bechtel, firming 8p to 430p, and Turner & Newall which gained 6p to 175p. Glaxo ended 4p to the good at 467p and there were rises of 3p from Fisons at 350p and ICI at 352p.

On the engineering pitch, specific factors played a more important role. Westland gave up 6p to 541p after the loss of a Middle East contract and consequent redundancies put at around 10 per cent. GKN continued to be depressed by last week's rights issue and dropped another 7p to 304p, but the annual report brought a brighter response from Vespene which closed 12p to the good at 100p.

Demand ahead of figures due today helped both Wilmot-Breeden, up 2p to 71p, and Babcock & Wilcox, 3p to 84p. The best of electricals were Decca "A" 5p to 285p and Reynolds Parsons which added 6p to 156p. After figures, Cohen Brothers were at an unchanged 37p.

Companies to benefit from favourable comment were Albright & Wilson, up 2p to 91p, and Holt Lloyd which put

on 4p, for a close of 84p. Giltspur continued to respond to last week's boardroom dissension and lost another 2p to 27p, but the success of Cetus of Nazareth over the holiday was good for a 4p rise to 74p for the "A" shares of ATV.

There was a limited demand for hotel issues, in particular Centre Hotels which gained 3p to 361p and Trust Houses Forte which gained 3p to 132p. Share placings left Arthur Bell unchanged at 200p and Adda International 2p better at 181p.

Isolated firm spots were to be found in Milford Docks, up 2p to 72p and Star Turntable, where the rise was of 6p to 80p in front of figures.

In the building sector, figures tomorrow had Mowlem 6p better at 116p, while Glyndwed was another to benefit from figures this week and closed 11p higher at 1041p. Wimpey closed 3p higher at 561p and brick-maker G. Downing firmed 2p to 124p in front of figures which are thought to be healthy. In shipbuilding, an active P & O closed 2p better at 133p. Loirs rose 21p to 48p, but Ocean Transport reacted 7p for the final figure of 144p.

In the financial sector the strongest of the clearing banks was Lloyds up 4p to 204p and Barclays 3p to 248p. HP issues saw some demand on talk that there may be some easing of motor purchase terms. UDT gained 2p to 26p and Lloyds & Scottish soared 6p to 88p.

For the latter, there was the added incentive of market chatter that Lloyds Bank, which has 40 per cent of the shares, may soon launch a bid for the

rest. The best of a firm Commonwealth banking sector were ANZ Group 5p to 287p and Australia Commerce Bank which ended 5p ahead at 245p. Chequer money hopes did little for the property sector where there was a mixed showing. Speculative interest had Property Investment & Finance up 7p to 75p, while Apex 2p to

Pilkington Brothers at 312p look neglected. One reason is that it pays individuals to buy Barr & Stroud at 515p. For this the buyer gets 263p cash and one ordinary share in Pilkington. The Monopolies Commission stopped Pilkington from taking over UKO and the agreed Barrs' acquisition is hardly a substitute. Even so, doubts about Pilkington's prospects seem overdue.

130p was another share to go ahead. In retreat were Great Portland 6p to 206p and Eamerson "A" where the fall was 5p to 395p.

buoyed by United States influence, oil shares were stronger than average. BP added no less than 20p to 822p. Shell gained 8p to 488p, and both Tricentral 6p to 136p and Burmah 5p to 65p, gained good ground in front of statements due soon. Ultramar was another good spot with a rise of 9p to 135p.

After hours, British funds lost more ground, but "blue chip" industrialists continued to rise a penny or so. Bechtel continued to be selectively wanted. Drake & Scull were unchanged at 14p after news of the managing director's amiable departure.

Equity turnover on April 7 was £53.40m (13,539 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, BP, Shell, Burmah, B&A, Marks & Spencer, GKN, Midland, Westland, P & O, GEC, Dunlop, Vespene, Mowlem, Suits, Ultramar, Loirs and Lloyds & Scottish.

## Latest dividends

| Company                     | Ord. div | Year ago | Pay date | Year's total | Prev year |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Channel Islands (£1) Fin    | 12.5     | 11       | 24/5     | 12.5         | 11        |
| Cedar (25p) Fin             | 0.9      | 0.7      | 2/6      | 2.5          | 2.1       |
| Cosalt (10p) Fin            | 1.22     | 1.22     | 2/6      | 2.05         | 1.86      |
| Cosalt (25p) Fin            | 1.55     | 1.4      | 2/6      | 2.75         | 2.5       |
| Taylor, Pallister (25p) Fin | 3.13     | 2.84     | 2/6      | 4.05         | 3.68      |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pension per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.54. \* Adjusted for scrip.

## Posers in sale of 1m Arthur Bell shares

By Ray Maughan

The Gannochy Trust has sold 1m shares in Perth-based whisky distiller Arthur Bell & Sons.

The deal, transacted last week, comprises the purchase of 500,000 shares by Legal & General Assurance Society, also of Perth, and the market placing the remainder. The price is believed to have been around 202p per share, against yesterday's quotation of 200p, and three institutions are understood to have been involved in the placing.

This is the second instance that Gannochy Trust, set up as a charity by the distiller's founder Mr. Arthur Bell, has been a major seller in the market. In October 1975 the disposal of 3m shares diluted its control to a 23 per cent holding and the latest sale brings Gannochy's interest down to 15.69 per cent while Legal & General's

stake climbs to 12.29 per cent. While the market is divided as to the long-term effect of the sale on Bell's share price—and its future as an independent whisky group—most agree that the short-term movement will be muted while implying a criticism on the market mechanism. As one dealer said yesterday: "It is difficult to get a large line of quality stock in quantity".

All agree that Bell holds strong potential, but opinion varies as to its sustained future as an independent.

One dealer estimated that after the Gannochy divestment for portfolio reasons "all looks safe for a while". Another felt that now the charitable stake has been broken up, the share's volatility may decrease. But the fact that Gannochy still firmly in the background as a likely bid candidate, Bell's speculative interest will be enhanced.

## Rebound from Cosalt tops forecast

Cosalt bounced back in 1976. On turnover up 46 per cent to £17.7m, pre-tax profits jumped from £556,000 to a peak £1.25m. It forecast for Elm at half-way. The dividend is up from 3.8p to 4.24p gross. Sales in all divisions continue to rise. Cosalt is in ships' chandlery and fishing gear, etc.

PLAXTONS (SCARBOROUGH) Plaxtons is to prepare next report and accounts for 13 months to Sept 30 next and to every Sept 30 afterwards.

TAYLOR, PALLISTER Sales for 1976 up by £207,000 to £1.58m, and pre-tax profits from £124,000 to £148,000. Dividend raised from 5.66p to 6.24p gross.

SPONG STARTS WELL Fairly good start made. Board hopes for another reasonably profitable year.

## Record year as sales dip at Cohen Electrical

Although sales fell from £2.1m to £1.7m, pre-tax profits of Cohen Bros (Electrical) rose 7 per cent to a record £452,000 for 1976. This is after deducting £10,000 as a retirement gratuity to a former director. Earnings a share of this maker of columns and maintainers of street and interior lights, are up from 4.97p to 5.27p. Its dividend is raised from 2.86p to 3.15p gross.

## British Steel Cons

The long-awaited accounts for the year to October 31, 1975, show a loss of £1.4m against a profit of £1.7m in 1974.

After stripping out five subsidiaries which have called in receivers, it made a pre-tax profit of £124,000 for the year to October 31, 1975. This was after £1.5m of extraordinary items. Turnover was steady at £8m.

## Euro-yen issues

Daiwa Securities, Tokyo, has invited an international syndicate to take part in a 10,000m yen Euro-yen bonds issue by European Investment Bank. The issue will be the first-ever public offering under an amendment in March to Japan's foreign exchange control.

A coupon of 7 1/2 per cent for a seven-year maturity is expected.

## Raine Eng extends

Raine Engineering Industries' unwelcome bid for Sheffield Brick has met with little success. Acceptances have been received for only 41,000 ordinary, or 5.17 per cent of the shares, while the offer relates. When the offer was announced in February, Raine held 196,000 shares in Sheffield and has not bought more since then. The offer is extended until Friday.

## Ellis &amp; McHardy slip

Although the sales of Ellis & McHardy, solid fuel distributors, rose from £3.61m to £4.35m in the half to January 31, pre-tax profits were down from £124,000 to £117,000. The board believes that trading and profits are "satisfactory" in tough going.

## Wall Street

New York, April 12—Stock exchange prices closed sharply higher, with the Dow Jones Industrial average up 13.06 points, at 837.18.

About 1,194 issues showed gains, compared with 306 losing.

Volume was 2.8 billion shares, against 17.7 million yesterday. Analysts report a heavy wave of sustained trading was a sign to many investors that institutional money managers were finally showing some conviction regarding equities.

Wall Street analysts said that better-than-expected first-quarter earnings reports—particularly among some leading blue chips—added to the bullish sentiment. —AP-Dow Jones.

## Gold slightly higher

New York, April 12—Gold futures closed up 80c higher on April 12, at \$350.00. The price of gold rose from \$349.20 on April 11 to \$350.00 on April 12. The price of gold rose from \$349.20 on April 11 to \$350.00 on April 12.

Chicago, April 12—Soybean futures closed up 1/4c higher on April 12, at \$10.00. The price of soybeans rose from \$9.75 on April 11 to \$10.00 on April 12.

Chicago, April 12—Soybean futures closed up 1/4c higher on April 12, at \$10.00. The price of soybeans rose from \$9.75 on April 11 to \$10.00 on April 12.

Chicago, April 12—Soybean futures closed up 1/4c higher on April 12, at \$10.00. The price of soybeans rose from \$9.75 on April 11 to \$10.00 on April 12.

Chicago, April 12—Soybean futures closed up 1/4c higher on April 12, at \$10.00. The price of soybeans rose from \$9.75 on April 11 to \$10.00 on April 12.

Chicago, April 12—Soybean futures closed up 1/4c higher on April 12, at \$10.00. The price of soybeans rose from \$9.75 on April 11 to \$10.00 on April 12.

## Foreign Exchange

The dollar weakened in most European currencies yesterday when they opened, again after the long Easter break.

The mark and the Swiss franc were particularly strong, with official intervention holding the dollar rate from rising still further. The joint float of the snake currencies against the dollar reached a mid-point of 11.46 per cent above the dollar rate, compared with 10.84 per cent at Thursday's close.

The yen closed in London at another three-and-a-half year high against the dollar of \$275.50 despite substantial official intervention.

Sterling held up against the dollar with good two-way business and closed at \$1.7193, in London, six points up on last Thursday's close.

The other currencies with a decline in the Bank of England's effective exchange rate of 0.2 points, to close at 61.6.

Gold closed in London at \$149.875 an ounce, \$1 up on Thursday.

## Spot Position of Sterling

| Forward Levels |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
|                | 3-months        |
| New York       | 1.90-1.70c prem |
| Montreal       | 4.85-72c prem   |
| Amsterdam      | 4-35c prem      |
| Brussels       | 4-35c prem      |
| Copenhagen     | 4-35c prem      |
| Frankfurt      | 4-35c prem      |
| London         | 4-35c prem      |
| Paris          | 4-35c prem      |
| Stockholm      | 4-35c prem      |
| Zurich         | 4-35c prem      |
|                | 6-months        |
| New York       | 1.90-1.70c prem |
| Montreal       | 4.85-72c prem   |
| Amsterdam      | 4-35c prem      |
| Brussels       | 4-35c prem      |
| Copenhagen     | 4-35c prem      |
| Frankfurt      | 4-35c prem      |
| London         | 4-35c prem      |
| Paris          | 4-35c prem      |
| Stockholm      | 4-35c prem      |
| Zurich         | 4-35c prem      |
|                | 9-months        |
| New York       | 1.90-1.70c prem |
| Montreal       | 4.85-72c prem   |
| Amsterdam      | 4-35c prem      |
| Brussels       | 4-35c prem      |
| Copenhagen     | 4-35c prem      |
| Frankfurt      | 4-35c prem      |
| London         | 4-35c prem      |
| Paris          | 4-35c prem      |
| Stockholm      | 4-35c prem      |
| Zurich         | 4-35c prem      |
|                | 12-months       |
| New York       | 1.90-1.70c prem |
| Montreal       | 4.85-72c prem   |
| Amsterdam      | 4-35c prem      |
| Brussels       | 4-35c prem      |
| Copenhagen     | 4-35c prem      |
| Frankfurt      | 4-35c prem      |
| London         | 4-35c prem      |
| Paris          | 4-35c prem      |
| Stockholm      | 4-35c prem      |
| Zurich         | 4-35c prem      |







**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.**

[illegible]



# La creme de la creme Opportunities

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

## Urgently Required

A new International Daily Newspaper starting publication in May, urgently needs the following executive secretarial personnel to work in their prestige West End Offices.

1. Executive Secretary/P.A.—To assist Administration Director. Impeccable shorthand/typing essential. Ability to act on own initiative, first class career opportunity. Salary £4,000 neg.
2. Arabic Translator/Typist.—Must have fluent written and spoken Arabic, plus first class typing skills. Experience in publishing an advantage. Salary £3,500 neg.
3. Experienced receptionist.—Spoken Arabic essential. Required to work modern switchboard and telex. Pleasant personality necessary, ability to cope under pressure. Salary £3,000 neg.
4. Experienced Voucher/Administration Executive.—For Advertising Department. Experience on National Daily/Publishing House essential. Able to implement and follow systems necessary. Salary neg. £3,000.

Phone 01-839 2884 or write to:

Darona Publishing, 54 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JH.

## PERSONAL SECRETARY

required for

Editor of Sunday Newspaper

Interesting work in a busy office, suitable for applicant with graduate-level education. Shorthand/typing needed and a knowledge of audio work would be helpful.

Hours: 10 to 6, Tuesday to Saturday

Four weeks' holiday

Salary: £3,549 per annum

Tel: 353 8000, extension 4068

## SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR ADVERTISING AGENCY

Interesting job with plenty of scope in Planning and Research.

Good salary, hairdressing allowance plus BUPA.

Phone Eve Phellas, 262 6700.

## TEMPORARY DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY with a view to permanency

A large company in the Strand is looking for a well educated Secretary (female or male). Legal experience would be an advantage but not essential. If you are over 28, have good speed (120 wpm) and good organizing ability this is your opportunity to benefit from Kelly Girl's excellent rates—(this vacancy £1.98 per hour) and conditions of work, including paid holidays.

Phone 01-583 7461

KELLY GIRL

America's top temp agency—Britain's Brightest

## Commercial Supervisor/ Personnel Officer

A highly interesting and varied administrative post for a professional and competent person with career orientation. Salary: £4,000 + bonus and fringe benefits that go with the international reputation of our client, based in modern W.8 offices. Accounting/secretarial experience required.

German Language?

Assistant Secretary for Sales/Marketing Division of German Co. (W.8 office). £3,500-£5,000 + bonus + 25% L.V. + 4 weeks holiday. Good salary and fringe for coordination, administration necessary.

Dove Recruitment Planning Ltd.

285 Strand

W.C.2R YAD

405 9751/4

## SECRETARY FOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

To work for friendly, small firm of Financial Advisers at Green Park, attractive offices. This is a senior position involving mainly non-technical work requiring good shorthand/audio skills, a sense of humour and tact. Car driver preferred.

Salary £3,500 +

Phone 01-499 9147

## SECRETARY/PA

£3,700

Well educated and well groomed Secretary, age 25, required to work for Senior Partner in firm of City Solicitors. Legal experience not essential. Shorthand and Audio 4 weeks holiday. Luncheon vouchers. Modern, friendly offices.

Ring 223 2781

Mrs. Norwood

## SECRETARY/PA

For senior Litigation partner of London (City) firm. Solicitors. Must enjoy dealing with clients and organising a busy department. Legal experience, particularly in litigation an advantage. Good shorthand and audio. Hours 9.30 to 5.30. Salary £3,150 + L.V.s. Phone J. R. Layton 01-405 9149

## PUBLISHING

£3,000 NEG

Super job for senior Secretary with first class skills and initiative to cope at senior level. Interesting job with good work.

LONDON CAREERS

01-794 0202

## A Superior Selection...

...of top class secretarial appointments are always available from Top Type. To demonstrate the variety here are three of the many available.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR— BANKING

A demanding but charming bank needs a top class, attractive Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

## PR MANAGING DIRECTOR

Super Senior Secretary vacancy. Plenty of involvement and responsibility including recruiting and looking after staff. Salary £2,750 for lively personality aged around 30.

## RADIO STATION MARKETING DIRECTOR

Must be 24-30, well spoken, smart and flexible with advertising background to work at hectic pace in this glamorous young company. General knowledge, initiative and adaptability are essential. Prospects are first class. Salary around £3,400 to start.

To find out more about these and other vacancies please contact:

Top Type

(Only Overseas)

29 New Bond Street

London W.1

Tel: 01-493 2155/0806

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

International Ad. Agency Account Executive. The group need an experienced P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## FASHION

£3,000

The Ad. Manager of an international fashion house needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## ADVERTISING

£3,500

The M.D. of a successful Ad. Agency needs a P.A. to assist in the day to day running of the agency. P.A. with a flair for account handling to prove their capabilities.

## £4,500 p.a. + Personal Assistant in Fashion

Fluent Italian and French

Working for two Directors of established business to take over Fashion Merchandising from Italy and France. Essential fluent both languages written and spoken. Must be willing to travel extensively and hold current driving licence.

Salary £4,500 p.a. plus generous bonuses.

Write with c.v. to:

Alan Lee Sales Ltd.

P.O. Box 91, London N20 8LB

or phone 01-349 2434

## WORD PERFECT?

As a major international organisation engaged in the technical aspects of industrial property insurance it is of prime importance that all our documentation is of a consistently high standard. Not only in terms of presentation but also in respect of accurate grammar and spelling.

The maintenance of these standards within our Engineering Department is the responsibility of the Proof Reader, for whom we now seek a replacement.

Working in close conjunction with a team of typists, and responsible for reading and checking all correspondence and technical reports for our London and overseas branch offices, making recommendations on usage and spelling as well as maintaining records and advising on possible improvements.

It is a demanding task calling for someone with an excellent command of the English language and an eye for detail. Typing ability is not required.

In return we offer an attractive salary of around £3,000 p.a. together with first-class conditions of service, including £2 weekly L.V. and season ticket loan scheme, in modern offices just five minutes walk from Victoria Station.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## SECRETARY/PA

AGE 25-35 To £3,800

You would be working with the M.D. of small, busy Management Consultancy near Oxford Circus. This is an involving job—very satisfying for a capable, experienced Secretary.

Call us personally... ask for Jenni Ward who can tell you more.

01-580 4907

## CUSTOMER RELATIONS OFFICER

F. W. Woolworth & Co. Ltd. require a suitable qualified/experienced person aged 28 plus to head up their small Customer Liaison Department which deals with customers and store complaints and queries etc. This is an extremely interesting and demanding position which offers a good salary, subsidised restaurant and staff discount buying facilities.

Please write, giving details of your career to date, to: Miss P. Wakefield, Personnel Officer, F. W. WOOLWORTH & CO. LTD., 242/246, Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

## SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL TRADING

W1 £4,000

The Managing Director of a shipping and oil trading group requires a highly experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL TRADING

W1 £4,000

The Managing Director of a shipping and oil trading group requires a highly experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL TRADING

W1 £4,000

The Managing Director of a shipping and oil trading group requires a highly experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL TRADING

W1 £4,000

The Managing Director of a shipping and oil trading group requires a highly experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATOR

INTERNATIONAL TRADING

W1 £4,000

The Managing Director of a shipping and oil trading group requires a highly experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

Please contact: Marie King, FACTORY MUTUAL INTERNATIONAL, Kingsgate House, 274 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Tel: 01-232 7799.

## PERSONNEL OFFICER £4,000 + BONUS

Unique opportunity for someone wishing to further their career in Personnel. Our clients, an American Investment Bank, seeks a responsible person with previous experience in this field who will handle recruitment, administration, welfare and affiliated duties. Aged 28-40.

## SECRETARY—MERCHANT BANK

Director dealing with worldwide investments seeks calm, competent Secretary with wide world experience in this sphere. Initiative and need for involvement are prerequisites.

## SW1 £3,500 negotiable

Chairman and Deputy Chairman of large international company need patient and versatile Secretary to organise their newly acquired offices. Good formal skills, initiative, and a sense of humour vital. In return, you will find your day stimulating and varied. Knowledge, French and/or German an advantage. Aged 28-35.

## Career plan

17 AIR STREET, W.1. 734 4284

## PA FOR CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

City EC3 £3,300+

Join a busy lively team in a busy lively office in a leading City firm.

The task is to grease the wheels, to smooth stony paths and furrowed brows, to deal with a wide range of interesting and important people.

The salary for the right person with excellent secretarial skills will be around £3,300, but could be more depending on your experience. The other terms and conditions are excellent and include good holidays, free lunches and life cover.

Please ring 01-626 0801 to find out all about it

## GERMANY

HAMBURG: £3,500 is the approximate salary for an experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

MANCHESTER: £3,500 is the approximate salary for an experienced Secretary/PA to share responsibility for an opportunity to become involved in a luxurious informal environment. £2,500-£4,000 + bank extras. Banking experience useful.

## MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

22 Charing Cross Road, W.C.2

01-836 3794/5

## FOREIGN TRADE

Busy Managing Director of fast expanding group of companies based in the City requires a competent well-educated and energetic Secretary with a quick mind who is capable of taking considerable responsibility in a small organisation. Own office plus electric typewriter.

Salary negotiable around £3,500 plus Christmas bonus and L.V.s.

PLEASE RING AND SPEAK DIRECT TO MR. WALSHE, 01-353 9991.

## PA TO DIRECTOR/ CONSULTANT

Company based in the City requiring PA with audio, plenty of shorthand and typing, and handling telephone enquiries and dealing with clients at all levels. Age 25+. Salary around £3,250.

## FACT-FINDING ASSISTANT

Young person required for Technical Manager of Exhibition Company, W.1. Sales or technical background useful, basic secretarial skills necessary but secondary to common sense and initiative. Salary around £2,000 neg.

## Susan Hamilton Personnel

33 St George's Street, London, W.1.

01-499 5408/4235.

## HAMBURG

£6,500

Join the excitement of the International Banking Group in Hamburg. A young, lively Department. As well as excellent salary and benefits, you will have a good command of German as you will be handling many of the company's German clients. Return fare and medical expenses paid. Assistance given with accommodation.

## SENIOR SECRETARIES

OVERSEAS DIVISION

175 New Bond St., W.1.

01-498 0092 01-495 5907.

## ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENTAL  
SECRETARY

Required for the Physiology Department. Good typing and shorthand skills. Salary £3,500 p.a. plus benefits. London Allowance.

Apply in writing, as soon as possible, to the names and addresses of two referees: The School Secretary, The Registrar, Royal Free Hospital, W.11 1PP.

## NO PRESSURES NO OVERTIME

£3,500 p.a.

If you are confident in your secretarial skills, and seek an unpressured but rewarding job, then you could be ideally suited for this vacancy with a major food company in W.1, where personal consideration of staff is the policy. Contact Judy Blythin.

## ALBEMARLE APPOINTMENTS

31 Berkeley St. W.1.

01-498 3712

## PA/SEC

For Research Director (Edgeware Rd/Marble Arch) require experienced shorthand Secretary. Salary of minimum £3,000.

Telephone: 723 1835

for further details.

## AMERICAN MEDICAL U.K. P.A. to Personnel Officer

Required for this world-wide Group of Private Hospitals based in W.1. The successful candidate must be able to handle a wide range of enquiries, and be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

Successful applicant must be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

Successful applicant must be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

Successful applicant must be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

Successful applicant must be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

Successful applicant must be able to deal with a wide range of people. There will also be an opportunity to meet other staff, and to be involved in the group's development.

## Top Jobs for Executive Secretaries

## PARIS LEGAL SEC.

The Paris office of an International Computer Company requires a Secretary for their European Legal Counsel (an English-speaking Dutchman). The candidate should have worked for at least 3 years for a barrister, solicitor or company legal adviser. Excellent secretarial skills are essential. French is not essential—but would be a definite asset. The work concerns commercial contracts, real estate and other legal matters. Salary £7,000 gross payable in France.

Contact: Mrs D. Shaerf 01-235 9984

## WINDSOR £4,000

A well-known heavy engineering company is setting up an office in Windsor to deal with an important contract in Brazil. The Operations Manager requires a really efficient Secretary/PA to work there for about 4 years. He will be away frequently and needs someone able to run his office and make decisions. Extensive travel arrangements and contact with clients and contractors. Age probably 25-35. Own office. Generous holidays.

Contact: Mrs J. Armit 01-235 9984

## NORTHWOOD M/SEX

## BILING. SEC.

A tax-free salary on a scale of £2,775-£3,685 is offered by an International Organisation for a Bilingual Secretary, fluent in French. Excellent secretarial skills. (French shorthand not necessary).



## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 21

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### HARD WORKING!

Young people aged 22+ who are interested in hard work are needed to assist in satisfying our demanding customers in Germany and France. We are an old well established specialized textile company and the majority of our business is in export. Applicants must have a desire to get totally involved with anything from contact with customers to Export Documentation. Languages advantageous. Really good remuneration to people who can fit the bill.

Please phone  
Mrs Susan Benner,  
01-935 1458.

### INTERVIEWERS

Are you self motivated, dynamic, ever 23, with a sales or employment background? If so, we are a fast growing International Staff Consultancy in need of Top Interviewers to whom we can offer exceptionally high rewards and excellent working conditions.

Please phone  
Linnette Bonface,  
01-935 6456

ADPower Staff Consultants

### RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

Lovely opening for a smart, well spoken person who enjoys meeting people. Lush offices in Kensington.

c. 22.500

235 9721

### A BRIGHT NEGOTIATOR

Is required (female) for an Estate Agency in West End. Some experience necessary, 10-15 years with initiative and responsibility. Salary negotiable.

Call 453 9534

AGNEW & CO.

### RECEPTIONIST, clerically experienced

for large firm, top salary, with excellent benefits. 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### INTERVIEWER

Would you like to help business and industry find new talent in North West London? If you are a confident, energetic, and personable person, please write to the Principal, George & Sons, 10, White Street, N.W.1.

### FLATSMAN

Top salary for experienced interviewers with professional training. 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### ADMIN ASST.

22+ years experience in business and industry. 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### WEST END

Bookshop, woman, 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, W.C.2

recruiting a mature Assistant Editor to the International Publishing Company, W.C.2. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### PART-TIME TYPISTS

We have several interesting and varied assignments. Part-time typists required. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### ADVERTISING

Small friendly department in a top publishing company based in London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### HELP A CHARITY?

Administrative Officer doing vital work in appeals dept. of a leading charity. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### RECEPTIONIST

required by Harbourn Solicitors. Opportunity for clerical work and typing, also 4 weeks holiday. Salary £2,500 with review in summer.

### THE MEDICI GALLERIES

7 GRAFTON STREET, LONDON, W.1. selling Original Paintings, Sculpture, and other works of art. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SALES ASSISTANT

Apply to: Harbourn Solicitors, 7 Grafton Street, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SCOTLAND WEST HIGHLANDS

Private run country house hotel 10 miles north of Inverness. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY

Large London company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### INTERVIEWER

for a large firm, top salary, with excellent benefits. 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### ADMIN ASST.

22+ years experience in business and industry. 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### WEST END

Bookshop, woman, 10-15 years experience. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### SALES ASSISTANT

10-15 years experience in business and industry. Salary negotiable.

### NON-SECRETARIAL

#### Are You Interested in Gardening and Good at Selling?

If so we may have a good full-time job for you in our growing and florist shop. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### THE GENERAL TRADING COMPANY LONDON'S MOST FASCINATING SHOP

We have several interesting and varied assignments. Part-time typists required. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SECRETARIAL

required for the Hospital Secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SEC/PA S.W.1

A happy Secretary urgently required for a happy Director of small St. James's Company dealing with exclusive clientele. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SECRETARY P.A. REQUIRED FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVE

In small hectic but friendly office of a property company in St. James's. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### FASHION YOUNG SECRETARY

£3,000. Top Executive of major fashion and design group seeks an enthusiastic, energetic, and personable young woman to act as a personal secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### PRIME APPOINTMENTS

Organise tourists £2,800 to start. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### NEW SPRING RATES FOR TEMPORARIES

Our Temp. have always enjoyed our personal secretary assignments and top rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

21 Brompton Road, Brompton, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

15 Wilton Road, S.W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### TRAVEL

Secretary/P.A. (20-25) required for exciting West End office—young staff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### MEDICAL CONSULTANT

Deputy Director, Devonshire Place, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### AUDIO SECRETARY

for investment Dept. of a large firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### POUR LA FEMME

BUY DIRECT from Paris. Vast selection of new and old. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SENIOR PARTNER'S P.A.

W.C.2. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### NOTING HILL GATE

We have top jobs available now for Secretaries, Auditors and Typists. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SENIOR PARTNER'S P.A.

W.C.2. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### GERMAN/ENGLISH

Secretary. Short-handling, languages, top rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SECRETARIAL

#### HIGHLY PAID JOB IN QUIET LUXURY WEST END OFFICE

President of major European company based in Germany with interests in banking to the theatre requires an intelligent assistant to run his London office. Reply in confidence.

### Box 0827 J, The Times

### THE NATIONAL HOSPITALS FOR NERVOUS DISEASES

Maida Vale, London, W.9

### PERSONAL SECRETARY

required for the Hospital Secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### APPLICANTS DO NOT NEED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD, BUT WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VERSATILE RESPONSIBLE PERSON WITH GOOD SHORTHAND AND TYPING.

Salary on the scale, £2,028 to £3,537 per annum, inclusive, plus performance allowances for recommended secretarial certificates.

For further details, please telephone Robert Naylor, Hospital Secretary on 01-235 3172. Applications in writing, giving the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to:

Mrs. J. Andrews, Personnel Officer,  
THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL  
Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG

### Tempting Times

GRADUATE GIRLS & MEN... Now offer more competitive rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### ARE YOU FREE?

Temp with us when you need to take a few days off. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

21 Brompton Road, Brompton, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

15 Wilton Road, S.W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### NEW SPRING RATES FOR TEMPORARIES

Our Temp. have always enjoyed our personal secretary assignments and top rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

21 Brompton Road, Brompton, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

15 Wilton Road, S.W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### TRAVEL

Secretary/P.A. (20-25) required for exciting West End office—young staff. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### MEDICAL CONSULTANT

Deputy Director, Devonshire Place, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### AUDIO SECRETARY

for investment Dept. of a large firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### POUR LA FEMME

BUY DIRECT from Paris. Vast selection of new and old. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SENIOR PARTNER'S P.A.

W.C.2. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### NOTING HILL GATE

We have top jobs available now for Secretaries, Auditors and Typists. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SENIOR PARTNER'S P.A.

W.C.2. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### GERMAN/ENGLISH

Secretary. Short-handling, languages, top rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### SECRETARIAL

#### HIGHLY PAID JOB IN QUIET LUXURY WEST END OFFICE

President of major European company based in Germany with interests in banking to the theatre requires an intelligent assistant to run his London office. Reply in confidence.

### Box 0827 J, The Times

### THE NATIONAL HOSPITALS FOR NERVOUS DISEASES

Maida Vale, London, W.9

### PERSONAL SECRETARY

required for the Hospital Secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### APPLICANTS DO NOT NEED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD, BUT WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VERSATILE RESPONSIBLE PERSON WITH GOOD SHORTHAND AND TYPING.

Salary on the scale, £2,028 to £3,537 per annum, inclusive, plus performance allowances for recommended secretarial certificates.

For further details, please telephone Robert Naylor, Hospital Secretary on 01-235 3172. Applications in writing, giving the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to:

Mrs. J. Andrews, Personnel Officer,  
THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL  
Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG

### Tempting Times

GRADUATE GIRLS & MEN... Now offer more competitive rates. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### ARE YOU FREE?

Temp with us when you need to take a few days off. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.

### JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

21 Brompton Road, Brompton, London, W.1. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the company, which is a leading publisher of international business directories.







